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Southeast Asia Report

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AUSTRALIA

\$230 MILLION WHEAT SALE TO PRC ANNOUNCED

North Richmond THE LAND in English 20 Nov 86 p 3

[Article by Brian Clancy]

[Text] A 1.5 MILLION tonne sale to China has helped dispel fears that Australia won't sell its expected 14 to 15 million tonne export wheat crop this year.

The China sale, for shipment January to June, was confirmed in Melbourne this week by the Australian Wheat Board's deputy general manager, marketing, Bob McCarthy.

Mr McCarthy, who has just returned from a marketing mission through Asia, said he expected the Chinese contract would be added to with a further 1.5 million tonnes in the second half of 1987.

The sale, at current ASW values of \$US100 a tonne fob would be worth about \$230 million and would include credit terms.

Mr McCarthy said China had experienced a poor season and would be turning first to Australia and Canada and then to the EC and the United States for supplies.

A three million tonne China contract for 1987 would equal Australian shipments in 1986.

In recent weeks the board has been under pressure following delays in writing contracts with Australia's big three customers — Egypt, Russia and China.

Mr McCarthy said a change of ministers in Egypt had delayed a contract which would normally have been signed now as part of the long

term agreement for 10 million tonnes over five years.

He said Egypt would stick with Australia, even though it was also buying from the EC and the American BICEP program.

Mr McCarthy said Australia had a quality advantage and Egypt recognised that Australia had always been a willing supplier in the past when other exporters were reluctant.

Egypt imported 2.3 million tonnes of Australian wheat in 1985-86.

Mr McCarthy was also confident of continuing contracts with Russia to add to the 500,000 tonnes sold in September.

Russia's requirements would be small following another good grain harvest in the range of 195 to 200 million tonnes.

Mr McCarthy saw no difficulty in Middle East markets, including Iran and Iraq, which bought 1.1 million and 700,000 tonnes respectively in the season ending September.

With the current spate of rainy weather in south-eastern Australia, he was predicting a crop of at least 17 million tonnes to give an exportable surplus of 15 million tonnes.

Mr McCarthy said the only problem remained the price which was holding tentatively between \$US100 and \$US105 a tonne or about \$A160.

/13046
CSO: 4200/180

AUSTRALIA

GOVERNMENT DROPPING WOOL TAX, PRICE RESTRAINTS

North Richmond THE LAND in English 20 Nov 86 p 5

[Article by Steve Swann]

[Text] CONSTRAINTS on wool tax and reserve price arrangements will be swept aside under proposed Federal Government legislation.

In what amounts to a major deregulation of the wool industry, the Government will hand responsibility for setting the tax and the annual level of the floor price to the Wool Council of Australia and the Australian Wool Corporation.

The administrative shake-up was announced by the Primary Industry Minister, John Kerin, in Adelaide yesterday at the opening of the Wool Council's annual conference.

Mr Kerin said the Government would also repeal the Wool Industry Act, replacing it with a simpler, more business-like Act, probably to be called the Wool Marketing Act.

Flexibility

At the same time, the AWC will be given more flexible borrowing powers and its board allowed greater independence and flexibility.

Mr Kerin said the Government acknowledged the annual reserve price scheme should not be decided in a political environment.

"It is the AWC as the commercial operator and the Wool Council which represents the provider of the funds, who should make the decision," he said.

The AWC would now be responsible for setting and announcing the floor price after Wool Council agreement.

The Government would only step in if the AWC and the council could not agree in any year.

However, Mr Kerin said he would continue to have the Bureau of Agricultural Economics advise him on the reserve price scheme and make the information public.

In a similar sweeping change, Mr Kerin said the Government would also legislate to allow the Wool Council, after consulting with the AWC, to determine annual allocations from wool tax monies.

The Act would specify minimum allocations of 2.5pc each to promotion and market support and 0.25pc to wool research and development.

The Wool Council would also decide on refunds to growers, with the Minister only intervening where there was

disagreement between the council and the corporation.

Mr Kerin said he would be prepared to approve a change in legislation to give the industry more scope within the Act for a higher tax level, if that was what the council decided this week.

AWC borrowing arrangements are also to be relaxed, with the corporation empowered to borrow up to 50pc of its net assets at the end of the previous financial year.

Mr Kerin said the AWC was now restricted by only being able to borrow up to \$200 million without ministerial approval.

However, borrowings beyond 50pc of net assets would require ministerial approval.

Mr Kerin also proposed changes to the make-up and selection of the AWC board.

He said the corporation needed the flexibility to be able to appoint either a part or full-time chairman.

There would be an industry-based selection committee set up to choose future members.

LAOS

COMMENTARY BLASTS U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, UN MOVES

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 22 Sep 86 p 4

[Commentary: "The Actions of the United States of America To Destroy the United Nations"]

[Text] From foreign news it was learned that the United States of America had demanded that the Soviet Union reduce by 25 the number of diplomats stationed in the United Nations by 1 October of this year. This demand makes it seem that the United States arrogantly feels that it has the prerogative to run the organization by itself. Is there any other way to explain why the United States would act as if the United Nations were its own organization other than that the United States persists in actions which violate the principles of this international organization, and so rashly demands to have its way with regard to how many diplomats each country should have at the United Nations? From foreign news we also learned that the United States had issued an ultimatum to the Soviet Union, the Ukraine and Byelorussia to reduce the number of their diplomats stationed in New York. This U.S. foreign policy demonstrates that it still follows a cruel, dictatorial foreign policy violating international law and the UN charter. What does this arrogant U.S. belief that it can decide things by itself mean? First of all the United States hopes its relations with the Soviet Union will deteriorate, and it will be more difficult to prepare for the summit between the leaders of the two countries, which is coming soon. In addition, most of the foreign diplomats at the United Nations are of the opinion that these actions were taken to cause dissension, and circumvent U.S. obligations. They were also an attempt to hinder normal UN activities and so in essence they were intended to destroy the U.N.'s role and end its effectiveness. Since this is the U.S. intention, it is delighted if it can confuse the atmosphere between countries, and slander the diplomats of various countries at a time when the 41st UN General Assembly is carrying on its activities and trying to solve the serious, life and death problems of the age in keeping with the expectations and aspirations of people throughout the world. Because of the U.S. intention to destroy the United Nations which is clearly demonstrated in its actions in the past and the present, such as the announcement that it would reduce its financial support unilaterally, and the regular slandering of the United Nations, various UN affiliated organizations are pressured to operate according to [U.S.] dictates. This behavior shows to the people of the world that the United

States wishes ill for the United Nations and its member nations whose policies oppose the will of the Reagan administration.

These actions not only demonstrate to the people of the world, once more, the dictatorial foreign policy which is basic to the Reagan administration, but they are also actions which violate the principles of international law and the UN Charter, and oppose the aspirations of all peoples who feel that the United Nations is a vital international organization with an important role in solving international problems, in international stability, and in peaceful cooperation within the international family. These action also violate the current international atmosphere of cooperation.

8149/13104

CSO: 4206/12

LAOS

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES GOALS OF ECONOMIC REFORM

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 19 Sep 86 p 2

[Article: "The Feelings of Comrade Ounrouan Senghonthavong, the Deputy Head of the Administrative Committee for the State Enterprise for Surveying and Designing Irrigation of Vientiane Province, Toward the Proposed Political Report of the Party Central Committee"]

[Excerpt] In order to revise the method for surveying and designing irrigation systems in Vientiane Province to the new system, there are three things we will have to do and they are:

Concerning planning we must correctly calculate the plan for 1987 as well as the plans for the 4 remaining years of the Second 5-Year Plan of the state, for example, the plan for primary production, and the plan for the obligations to the budget. [We must] make a comprehensive plan for the requisition for equipment, machinery, tools and vehicles, and research the regulations on business figures and technical figures.

[Concerning] financial matters and listed prices [we must] reappraise things, and organize on a permanent basis that which serves production directly, that which serves production indirectly, and that which is worn out.

[We must] reinvestigate statistics and circulating capital such as debts which must be paid on time, and continue to calculate prices and economic figures and business profit and loss correctly.

Concerning labor and salaries, labor is to be reorganized so that it is appropriate for the actual activities. Production is to be reorganized in those areas of direct production and indirect production. The figures for contracted labor used in activities are to be improved so that they are in keeping with the level of activity. The amount of indirect production is to be decreased as much as possible, and the amount of direct production is to be increased greatly. Preparations are to be made to start training cadres and skilled engineers, and to increase the ingenuity of cadres and workers.

[We must] produce figures for labor costs and salaries in keeping with production or labor salaries in the form of contract labor. These three tasks

we must strive to do during the last 6 months of 1986 in order to assure a vigorous expansion of the right of collective mastery of our cadres and workers, carry out production figures and obligations to the state budget correctly, and steadily expand the irrigation survey and design enterprise of Vientiane Province.

8149/13104

CS0: 4206/12

LAOS

MOUNTAIN AREA DEVELOPMENT UNIT WORK SUMMARIZED, PLANS NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 20 Sep 86 p 2

[Article: "The Goal Figures For 2 Months"]

[Text] The congress to summarize and draw lessons of the mountain development corporation from 1985 and the first six months of 1986 presented its operations in detail for all areas and all periods.

Out of this summarizing and learning congress which was held in order to continue to carry out the party, state and Ministry of Defense plans for the corporation. These plans were adopted in 1986, according to their goals, and this congress came up with a plan to be carried out by its units with goals for each activity in various areas as follows: in the area of improving correctly the continued implementation of the new command administration principles according to the spirit and orders adopted by the party and state as well as the Ministry of Defense, they would continue to place command cadres in each unit, to apportion appropriately the specialists from each area and to establish the sections and branches for various specialties necessary for the corporation, so that they gradually would be complete. The summarizing and drawing lessons on a monthly, quarterly, 6 month and yearly basis was to proceed normally. The summarizing of activities was to be done clearly and completely for activities in various areas in which outstanding individuals or units are praised, or in which units or individuals with shortcomings received constructive criticism or recommendations for solving problems. For any operation the command cadres and party units were to be unified and plans recommended so that everyone was involved and the entire unit united. If it is done this way, the operations of the unit will be correct and prompt.

The plans for the last 6 months of 1986 and the first 6 months of 1987 involve detailed goals for improving the exploitation of lumber, and planting trees by various units throughout the corporation as follows: to plant 2,700 commercial trees of various kinds, to inspect and care for the young trees throughout the area for which the corporation is responsible, and to send cadres and forestry specialists to inspect and mark the trees in areas targeted for exploitation. Those units affiliated with the corporation must plant from 2,500 to 3,500 trees and continue to expand the planting of cardamon, castor beans and oil bearing plants by 8 to 10 hectares. The trade

branch of the corporation must continue to set up stores to sell to, and barter with the workers of various areas according to conditions in the localities in order to better requisition and barter for forest products from the people. They must continue to mobilize the people in activities to develop the forests, and to plant trees to create forests in targeted areas more than previously, and they must expand the people's right of collective mastery so that the people and the administration work together to maintain the forests and valuable resources.

In developing a grassroots' movement they must continue steady improvement of administration. What is necessary is that the corporation set up more hospitals and build more schools for the people, and build irrigation ditches and clear more land for the farmers. This should be done to reduce the cutting of trees and clearing of land by the people in the mountain areas. The corporation must cooperate with the people to expand animal husbandry in, for example, buffalo, cattle, goats, pigs and various kinds of poultry. Veterinarians must travel to give shots to animals regularly to prevent epidemics. The corporation should set up rice mills in appropriate places to serve the people. In the next 12 months the corporation should continue to build roads to various areas as conditions warrant for convenience in the transportation and distribution of goods between the state and the people. In addition the corporation should also continue propaganda to encourage more individual farmers to join in collective production.

In order to carry out the plan for the last 6 months of 1986 and the first 6 months of 1987, the primary requirement is the creative ideology of the cadres of each unit affiliated with the workers. State employees in general must be completely unified with the leadership in carrying out operations at all times in keeping with the confidence placed in them by upper echelons identifying them as: the most important creative source for the economy, and the defense of the nation leading to the building of business units in keeping with the resolutions of the party Central Committee.

8149/13104
CSO: 4206/12

LAOS

BRIEFS

CAPACITIES, PRICES OF SRV-AIDED BOATS--Comrade Somvang Dengchampa, the head of the administrative committee of the Marine Transportation Corporation, told writers on the boat during its trial run that: the construction projects for the passenger boat and the cargo boats were begun on 15 May and 15 June 1986. Today they are completely finished. The SRV cooperated in this construction under a plan for cooperation in the construction of passenger boats and cargo boats signed in 1985 between Laos and Vietnam. In response to questions about the costs and technical standards of the boats, Comrade Somvang Dengchampa said that: the steel passenger boat was the second such boat to be made, and it contained 220 seats and was 41.8 meters long, 6.2 meters wide, 2.7 meter high and drew 1.3 meters. It had 580 horsepower. Its interior was spacious. It was able to average 22 km per hour and cost 40 million kip. The two cargo boats were 33 meters long, 6.8 meters wide, 1.6 meters high and drew 1.2 meters. They had 165 horsepower and were able to average 14 km per hour. They could carry 140 tons and cost 15 million kip to build. The construction of these boats was finished 45 days ahead of schedule. Since the liberation of the nation, the SRV has assisted us in the construction of 33 boats. Of these, 2 were steel passenger boats with 220 seats each. There were 5 steel cargo boats which could carry from 100 to 140 tons and there were 26 wooden cargo boats which could carry from 20 to 150 tons. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 20 Sep 86 p 2] 8149/13104

CSO: 4206/12

PHILIPPINES

LAUREL CRITICIZES 'DIVISIVENESS' IN NATION

HK280106 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 27 Nov 86 p 20

[Text] Vice-president Salvador Laurel yesterday criticized the divisiveness in the nation which he said is hampering the effort at economic recovery.

In a speech read for him by former Sen Dominador Aytona before the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines, Laurel cited the economic and political gains achieved so far since the takeover of the current government.

Despite these gains, Laurel said, the most important concern of national reconstruction remains an elusive dream. Setting back the effort at economic recovery, Laurel said, is the national disunity.

Said Laurel: "Our foremost enemy is ourselves. No sooner had we joined hands together in peacefully toppling down tyranny than we started once again to be preoccupied with the things that divide us. The presence of a common enemy created a broad alliance among various sectors. But the absence of the despot reveals cracks in a fragile coalition."

Laurel pointed out an "air of divisiveness" as expressed in the insurgency problem, hostile labor-management relations, and other forms of polarization in Philippine society.

"We speak of peace and reconciliation. But the atmosphere is so filled with mistrust and suspicion. We see the face of vengeance. The spoils of political combat are going to the victors," he said.

Laurel continued: "When do we start rising above ourselves? When do we transcend our petty concerns and our selfish interests for the sake of the one and only country God has given us? When shall we place the needs of the nation above everything else?"

Laurel traced the problem to lack of patriotism and a deep sense of nationhood.

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CSO: 4200/177

PHILIPPINES

ENRILE PROMISES EVENTUAL RETURN TO POLITICAL FRAY

HK280629 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Nov 86 pp 1, 1

[Article by Teresita E. Orendain]

[Text] On the second day after his ouster as defense minister, what is Juan Ponce Enrile doing? He has been kept busy welcoming a stream of visitors sympathetic to his cause and newsmen who, welcome or not, have camped across his house in Dasmarinas Village.

"I plan to ctach up on my reading, and I plan to reread Rudyard Kipling's 'if,' if I have the chance, but I will not leave for abroad as many have speculated or reported in the papers, and then, when I am good and ready, I go into the fray again," he said.

Will he head the Nacionalista Party [NP] as reported again in the papers? "If they want me, or any other opposition group needs a leader, then they can count on me." And when may that be? "When I start accepting speaking engagements again," he countered in a cryptic smile.

These and many thoughts wereput forward in a tete-a-tete with this writer who visited him on his second day out of office.

A first attempt was aborted by an overzealous security guard of the village who told me that I was not on the list of visitors given to him. Since it is useless to argue with short-minded men with long firearms, I retreated and the following day conveyed my regrets to Mrs Enrile through a mutual friend since she was expecting me that evening. Mrs Enrile expressed surprise as they had not given any order to check on who may come a-calling except their own guards posted immediately outside their gate.

The vicinity of the Enrile residence was crawling with people, as on the first day when hordes of foreign newsmen who were not allowed inside the house camped across the street. A Japanese TV crew accosted everyone who went in. Businessman Ricardo Silverio escaped being grilled when he told them he was the family dentist who came to treat one of the Enrile household help.

Mr Enrile was himself, the soul of relaxation in an old red t-shirt and dark pants. He was in a huddle with a group that included former information minister Francisco Tatad, now a columnist, who said that he had just planed in from Australia and that he dropped by on his way home. At the other end of the living room, Mrs Enrile, very relaxed in an off-white housecoat, was holding court with some women that included Chloe Romulo, Fenny Tatad, Deana Santos and some long time friends, as well as wives of some junior army officers who were calling on her husband.

Asked his reactions on the reason given by President Aquino, that his presence in the ministry had divided the loyalists of the Armed Forces, Mr Enrile said his departure would not solve the so-called "division of loyalties."

"I have been minister of defense for 17 years, and have worked with graduates of the Philippine Military Academy for the same number of years. Do you think that the mere act of removing me erased the friendship and respect these young men have for me?"

"Besides," he continued, "these men who are in the service now are moved by the same fervor and reasons of the old officers who chose to join me in the February revolution. These young men are not blind. When they see things are not right, they will act with the same impassioned free will that prodded the old officers to join me and Gen Ramos last February... whether I am there to lead them or not is beside the point...my departure will not prevent his. The only thing that will prevent another February is if the government acts to protect the majority of the will of the people, and that is, protect them from the communist threat. Otherwise..."

Is there a breach between him and Gen Ramos and the newly appointed minister of defense?

"Gen Ramos and Minister Ileto have been comrades-in-arms for years. They will do what they have to do and sworn to do, that is, protect the majority of the people who do not want to live under a communist regime."

Moving to dinner (chicken adobo and pork chops for visitors; fish sinigang for him, with Mrs Enrile admonishing him to watch his diet), he continued:

"When they allow me to speak publicly against government policies that I had been objecting to when I was still minister of defense, then this will prove or disprove the government's claim that there is a democratic society and democratic space in this country. This will be test case."

Was there really an attempted coup that give President Aquino the reason to sack him? None, he said.

How valuable is Joker Arroyo to President Aquino?

"Very. She is too dependent on him for advice and I don't see how she can dismiss him from the Cabinet."

He also said that quick decision making is not a virtue of the president, thus at Cabinet meetings, matters that need quick decisions are almost always deferred.

Quoting from a poem, "My head is bloody but unbowed..." he asked rhetorically if his head was really bloodied. He answered himself: "No, I don't think so."

Yes, he will campaign for a no vote to the Constitution.

What was the greatest mistake of President Marcos? "To me, his greatest mistake was when he decided to close Congress." (This was at the beginning of martial law rule.)

And he drew the same parallelism with the Aquino Administration. "When she closed the Batasan against the advice of so many of us, she committed the same blunder as Marcos... Now she says she will reconvene Congress when the Constitution is approved. She'll find that the same Congress will not be as tractable as she would like them to be. It will be her biggest headache."

Why, as it has been rumored, are American policy makers ambivalent towards him? "Well, possibly because while I was not for abrogation of the bases, I batted, even at the old Batasan, for it to be under a treaty where rental must be paid just as they do in other countries where the U.S. has bases. Not aid, but rentals."

"We must not rely too much on America for our safety. Look at what happened to all the countries that relied on the U.S. too much. Look at Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Cuba and lately Nicaragua."

"I am like Socrates, don't you think so," possibly referring to his beliefs and the following and popularity he has with the younger members of the armed forces.

To which we replied, "Yes sir, but don't let them lead you to drink the hemlock."

To which he reacted with a philosophic smile.

/9738

CSO: 4200/177

PHILIPPINES

ENRILE OUTGOING REMARKS, AWARD HIGHLIGHT TURNOVER CEREMONY

HK280913 Hong Kong AFP in English 0901 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Manila, 28 Nov (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino's government Friday gave outgoing Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile an honorable exit, five days after he was sacked following an aborted coup in which military men close to him were implicated.

Mr Enrile was given the Philippine Legion of Honor, the highest civil award that can be conferred by the government on a civilian, while other officials led by his replacement Rafael Ileto recalled his nearly 17 years of leadership of the Defense Ministry.

The turnover ceremony began on a rather odd note, when the military band struck up the tune "I Think I'm Going Out Of My Head." They later performed the folk songs "Blowing in the Wind" and "Where Have All the Flowers Gone."

There had been reports that the outgoing minister would make a significant announcement during the ceremony, but it was primarily a sentimental affair, and Mr Enrile stressed that he was leaving the government "without any rancor, without any regrets, and without any recriminations."

He did warn however that the Philippines needed Mr Ileto, whom he described as a "man of wisdom, a man of courage, a man of integrity," at "this time of crisis and difficulties in our land."

Mr Enrile, 62, was given the Legion of Honor for his role in the February revolt which toppled Ferdinand Marcos and brought Mrs Aquino to power. Mrs Aquino said in the citation that this had earned Mr Enrile a place "in the grateful memory of our race."

She had said earlier Friday "I'd like to thank Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and General Fidel Ramos for their role" in the February revolt.

Mr Enrile's sacking was followed by the conclusion of a ceasefire agreement with communist rebels. Mr Enrile had been a strong critic of the peace talks.

He referred Friday to an earlier proposal, which he had not raised since the talks began, that the communist party could be legalized if it renounced violence. "Now is the time for new thoughts and fresh ideas to blossom in our land. Tolerance is what we need, especially in facing those who do not agree with us."

Mr Ileto paid tribute to Mr Enrile's role as defense minister, noting that he had led public awareness of the continuing communist menace "at the risk of the unrelenting assault" on his stature and dignity as a public official.

Top Armed Forces leaders headed by Armed Forces Chief Fidel Ramos, civilian employees of the ministry and military attaches from foreign embassies, attended the ceremony.

Gen Ramos, whose support of Mrs Aquino at the weekend was seen as giving her the strength to be able to sack Mr Enrile, presented the outgoing minister with a golden cowrie shell and paid a brief tribute to his service.

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PHILIPPINES

ACADEMICS ANALYZE POLITICIZED MILITARY

HK011125 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 29 Nov 86 p 5

["Political Tidbits" column by Belinda Olivares-Cunanan: "'Conscienticized' Instead of Politicized Military"]

[Text] The aborted coup last Saturday evening has remained uppermost in the minds of the citizens, competing with the revamp in the Cabinet and the recently signed cease-fire agreement for media space. Yesterday morning several faculty members of the UP [University of the Philippines] College of Liberal Arts decided to analyze the factors that led to the coup attempt and future scenarios relating to the military's handling of power.

Central to the thesis of the four speakers, namely, Professors Francisco Nemenzo, Randolph David, Alex Magno and Emmanuel Lallana, is the recognition that the aborted coup is an indication of the tremendous politicization that the military has undergone over the last 14 years. As the saying goes, the military today doesn't want to go back to the barracks.

As the professors note, the concept of civilian supremacy over the military appears to have been challenged by at least a sector of the military, who wants to be coequal and share power with the civilian power. It seems that some individuals in the military view themselves no longer as "instruments of civilian power," or as "agents of state power" but as their master, capable of independent and autonomous action by themselves.

The academics trace the corruption of the traditional role of the military to the martial law regime, during which the deposed President Marcos, in the process of making the military his private army, vested it with too much power in return for its unswerving loyalty to his ambition to be lifetime president. Cory Aquino had set her mind on reforming the military she had suddenly come to command, but unfortunately, it had already tasted tremendous power and was not about to relinquish this, the professors noted.

Professor Randy David points out that the 37-hour Manila Hotel attempted putsch, which involved both civilian loyalists and some 450 soldiers and 11 military officers, revealed the instability of the Aquino Government and its dependence on the military, apart from playing up then Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile's following among the military and his seeming

indispensability to the Aquino Government. Owing to a large degree to the wishy-washy way the Manila Hotel incident was handled by the civilian leadership, the military began to play an increasingly aggressive role even in non-military affairs; a faction of the military began to transform itself into a morally righteous group vis-a-vis the communists as well as the problem of corruption in the government.

The academics pointed out that the first indication of this new role was the Armed Forces' demand, enunciated aggressively by Minister Enrile and the RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] faction, but apparently also supported by Gen Ramos and his faction, for the revamp of the Cabinet and the purge of undeserving OICS [officers-in-charge]. The RAM officers also stepped up their campaign against the alleged corruption in the bureaucracy.

Prof Alex Magno pointed out that there were various factors that dictated the urgency of the coup of last weekend, such as the show of force of the left during the Olalia funeral, the imminent signing of the ceasefire agreement with the NDF and the just as apparently imminent sacking of Minister Enrile.

The academics noted that in all these developments Gen Ramos and then Deputy Defense Minister Rafael Ileto had remained loyal to the president while then Minister Enrile had chosen to step up his criticisms of the president even as he encouraged the plans of the rebellious RAM, of which he was the acknowledged godfather. But the academics noted that in certain basic areas, such as their approach to communism and the problems of the bureaucracy, most of the key military personalities, including the top three, had been in accord. This insight has given rise to what is called in academic circles as Ramos' and Ileto's "slow-tract approach" versus the Enrile-RAM "fast-tract approach."

So what can be done about politicized military who refuse to stay in the barracks as in the good old days? Randy David noted that if the term "politicized" means that the military is simply more aware of issues today, then being "politicized" is healthy. But if the term means that the military arrogates to itself powers and functions that do not belong to it, such as bureaucratic problems which should be the concern of the civilian government, then there is everything wrong with being "politicized."

Prof Dodong Nemenzo noted that if the clergy has become politicized, why not the military. He stressed that the politicization of the military is a fact of present-day Philippine life, and it would be wishful thinking to imagine that they can be de-politicized. Rather, he stresses that perhaps these politicized military could be "conscienticized" instead, "to become committed to democratic politics," as Nemenzo put it.

It was noted that at the outset of martial law the military had agreed to back up the regime of Marcos because of what it had perceived to be the impending reign of anarchy in the country. It was also pointed out that historically the military has felt compelled to intervene with its legitimate armed might in political and economic crises as well as the deterioration of social conditions, all of which weaken its confidence in the civilian authority's ability to handle these crises.

If the ingredient of ambition by a faction of the military for power can be isolated, any attempt by the military to take over power could be read as an indictment of weak civilian leadership. What can deter any military adventurism in the future? Both Professors Emmanuel Lallana and Francisco Nemenzo noted that an efficient, honest and sincere civilian bureaucracy and an intelligent and mobilized citizenry are still the most effective weapons that can be relied upon to defeat any such adventurism. Cory has to overhaul the bureaucracy and reform the military, and the people have to remain organized for effective people power not just against misguided military but also [word indistinct] inefficient bureaucracy.

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PHILIPPINES

ILETO ON REASSIGNMENTS OF REFORM MOVEMENT MEMBERS

HK261259 Manila THE PHILIPPINE TRIBUNE in English 26 Nov 86 p 4

[Text] New Defense Minister Rafael Ileta plans to break up the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) by assigning its members to "areas where their specialties can be properly utilized."

In an interview with Malacanang newsmen, Ileta said a number of the RAM members will be assigned to combat zones since "they are good in counter-insurgency operations."

The RAM, which has as core group the Philippine Military Academy class of 1971, is the reformist military clique which has publicly professed loyalty to former Defense Chief Juan Ponce Enrile.

Its members, among them Col. Gregorio Honasan, Rex Robles, and Red Kapunan were hailed as the heroes of the February revolution that swept Mrs Aquino to power.

The RAM is now being held responsible for two aborted coup plots against the Aquino Government--the "God Save the Queen" operation which was to have been sprung before the president left for Tokyo early this month, and the Batasang Pambansa takeover plan which was aborted last Saturday.

Even as the RAM is being tagged as the group behind the aborted coup attempt, Ileta said at this point, he cannot, as yet, talk about what future awaits the junior officers whom Enrile called "my boys."

"I cannot say anything, we are still in the process of an informal probe," Ileta said. He said, however, that he will not break up the RAM as an organization.

"That is the freedom of a few people who decide to just get together among themselves... even in the military, we have officers' clubs and enlisted men's clubs," Ileta said. "If they (the RAM members) want to have their own club, let them," he added.

Ileto pointed out, however, that the RAM has ceased to be a reformist group because the reforms that they wanted have been "institutionalized."

Ileto, who was Enrile's deputy before his appointment last Sunday, said he has talked to his former boss only once since he (Enrile) was ousted.

The new defense minister was in Malacanang to discuss defense policies with the president. The details of their discussion were not immediately made available.

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PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATOR'S HOUSE STRAFED 28 NOVEMBER

HK300740 Hong Kong AFP in English 0730 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Manila, 30 Nov (AFP)--Unidentified men fired at the house of a Philippine Government official who is investigating two firms linked with former Armed Forces Chief of Staff Fabian Ver, the official's wife said here Sunday.

Around 30 supporters of President Corazon Aquino were having a party at the house of Deputy Telecommunications Commissioner Jose Alcuaz Friday when the armed men fired twice at the family's security guards and the house, Mr Alcuaz's wife Baby Alcuaz said. Nobody was hit.

Mr Alcuaz is investigating two communications firms linked with Mr Ver which reportedly owe the government between 3.5 million and 5 million pesos (175,000 and 250,000 dollars) in unpaid license fees, Mrs Alcuaz said.

She said there had been several attempts in the past to stop the investigation. Mrs Alcuaz, a close friend and staunch supporter of Mrs Aquino, said the strafing was the third attempt to harass the Alcuaz family, although it was the first direct attack on their house.

The police are trying to trace several vehicles seen near the house since the family started receiving threats three weeks ago, she said.

Mr Ver was Armed Forces chief of staff before he fled the country with President Marcos when a popular revolt brought Mrs Aquino to power.

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PHILIPPINES

DEFENSE CHIEF WELCOMES HUMAN RIGHTS PROBE FOR ARMY

HK281409 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 28 Nov 86 p 14

[Text] Defense Minister Rafael Ileto yesterday said he welcomes the investigation of human rights violations by the military "as this would help us... discipline our troops."

Ileto told newsmen that discipline within the 250,000-strong Armed Forces "is not total." But he added that all the military is asking for is fairness in case any soldier would be investigated by the Presidential Commission on Human Rights [PCHR].

Ileto suggested that to forestall human rights abuses, he is even thinking of inviting PCHR members to accompany troops during combat operations "to show them (the PCHR) how soldiers perform their job."

Ileto, however, rejected proposals that a separate unit be created to investigate human rights abuses by the communist insurgents. "This would only give them a status of belligerency, something which I am not in favor of," Ileto explained. "They (the insurgents) could use this status by invoking the Geneva convention, claim that they are also legitimate combatants and even take their own prisoners of war. We don't want to recognize their government or their territory. We cannot do that. In fact, we are avoiding that even during a ceasefire period..."

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PHILIPPINES

RAMOS STRESSES IMPROVING FIELD LOGISTICS

HK281413 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 28 Nov 86 p 2

[Article by Vittorio Vitug]

[Text] Field troopers in the Armed Forces will remain the priority in the distribution of military equipment and facilities, Armed Forces Chief Gen Fidel V. Ramos said yesterday.

Ramos, in a press statement said the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] high command is launching an "aggressive move to push more logistics in the field to upgrade the morale and welfare of military personnel."

Ramos said he is set to turn over four units of ambulance vehicles to various military hospitals based in Manila and Cebu City.

Earlier, Ramos said fatigue uniforms were sent to troopers in Central Luzon and Cagayan Valley regions. Other regional military units are expected to receive the same items within the next few days, he added.

In various meetings with military men, Ramos has repeatedly given assurances that field troopers enjoy the priority in the list of those who will receive necessary equipment including guns and ammunition, saying the soldiers act as the "frontline" in the counterinsurgency campaign.

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PHILIPPINES

PAPER SUMMARIZES NPA REGIONAL STRENGTH

HK281415 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 28 Nov 86 p 10

[Text] All will be quiet in the warfront from 10 December to 7 February as the New People's Army and the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] go on a ceasefire.

For the first time in 17 years, the protagonists to the bloody countryside war will have to set aside their Armalite, carbines and howitzers. Landmines will be removed, V-150s kept inside camps. And barriofolks caught in the crossfire can heave a sigh of relief: no more search and destroy operations and saturation drives from the AFP, no more agaw arma [arms grabbing] and revolutionary taxation from the NPA.

The ceasefire is a respite for both the insurgents and the government troops. Locked in a battle for the people's support for the last 17 years, this will be their first real peaceful Christmas.

Organized in 1969 reportedly under a mango tree somewhere in Central Luzon, the Communist Party of the Philippines' [CPP] NPA began with barely a hundred men and a few rusty guns.

Today, the CPP/NPA has an estimated strength of 23,000 men scattered over 41,744 barangays nationwide. The Red Fighters as the NPA's call themselves, carry some 11,900 assorted firearms, mostly obtained in their "agaw-arnas" operations against the AFP.

Though began in Central Luzon, the NPA's largest concentration are now in Regions 9 and 10 in Mindanao followed by Region 8 in the Visayas.

In Region 9, which comprise the Davao provinces, the CPP/NPA controls 50.3 percent of the population, mostly rural. In Region 10--Surigao, Agusan and Misamis Oriental areas--the insurgents control 44.8 percent of the barangays.

On the national scale, however, government statistics showed a growing rebel strength. From a 7,750 men in 1982 to 23,200 in September this year or a 33 percent rate of increase.

For the same period covered, (1982-1986), the rebels were able to gather a big number of firearms: from 2,391 in 1982 to 11,900 in 1986, or a 54 percent rate of increase.

The last four years proved to be the rebels' "agaw-arnas" banner years. Doubling each year, their firearms leaped from 2,391 in 1982; 4,620 in 1983; 8,351 in 1984 to 11,222 last year.

The same period also registered a consistent AFP loss of firearms to the rebels.

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PHILIPPINES

TATAD ON NEED TO CONSOLIDATE PEACE

HK281623 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 28 Nov 86 p 4

["Here and Now" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "Winning the Peace"]

[Text] U. S. Ambassador Stephen Bosworth told the Makati Business Club on Wednesday that his government played no role in the events last weekend that led to the sacking of Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. "We, in the United States," he said, "could not and did not involve ourselves in your internal political debate. These were Filipino issues which could only be resolved by Filipinos. We did, however, state publicly what should have been obvious to everyone. We support President Aquino and her government. That support is firm and unequivocal. And any attempt to change the government through force or the threat of force would have had certain inevitable consequences in our bilateral relationship. That was and will remain a simple statement of objective reality."

The statement was made not in reply to a question, but quite gratuitously in the course of a speech. It was something that had to be said on the record, obviously to allay suspicions of U.S. involvement in the events last weekend. Unfortunately, it may have produced the very opposite effect, and called attention to what Bosworth said the U.S. precisely did not do.

Like it or not, there is a strong perception among thoughtful Filipinos that the U.S. did play a part, and it would be unfair to assure the ambassador that such perception has now been sufficiently corrected or altered by his statement. It persists.

Neither Enrile nor any of the military reformists has said anything until now, so we do not know how they react to the ambassador's statement. Whatever is the real score, Enrile is out of the Cabinet, the military reformists have taken a low profile, the president is reorganizing her Cabinet, and the government has just signed a 60-day ceasefire with the National Democratic Front. There are tasks ahead that require our full concentration and the best of our energies.

We need to press on with our program of economic recovery and win and consolidate the peace. Unless the economy recovers, the nation will not be at peace, and unless there is peace, the economy will not recover. Something of circular causation is at work here, it is not so easy to decide which is the chicken and which is the egg. As Bosworth pointed out, we do not have the luxury of setting aside some problems as priorities, and others as anti-priorities. We have to tackle all of them at the same time, or we would not be doing what we should be doing at all. We have to keep running in order to keep still.

The events of last weekend allow the government a moment where it can act on major problems with some decisiveness. That Mrs Aquino finally prevailed is welcomed by those who have no love lost for her former defense minister. But before she finally prevailed, the conflict had so deteriorated that to many people the important thing was not that she, rather than he, should win, but that the prolonged stalemate should end and that one side, it did not matter who, should win. In one word, the conflict had produced so much sense of hopelessness among so many people that they were no longer looking at it in terms of who had the moral right to win, but rather in terms of who could give the nation a proper direction.

Now that she has won, this is what the nation is waiting for. A sense of motion and direction. The government has a tendency to be euphoric about its small victories, and to mistake these for real achievements in the task of governing. These are achievements in holding on to power and must not be construed as the actual equivalent of governing the nation. Governing involves something more complicated and more profound than besting one's adversaries in the power struggle. It entails moving the nation toward some well-defined goals.

With the Enrile problem behind her, Mrs Aquino should now be able to concentrate fully on this endeavor. She has the unequalled opportunity to address not only the political but above all the social issues that have spawned violent discontent and rebellion across the nation. And she has the same unequalled opportunity to lead the nation [to] win the ideological competition which her peace process and the policy of pluralism have ushered in. As the most popular political figure around, she needs to lead the rest of the nation in upholding the social and political values threatened by the competition.

In celebrating the ceasefire agreement, she must not lose sight of the fact that this agreement ushers in a new phase in the political competition with the left. Without renouncing armed struggle, the left has now become a full participant, vested with respectability in the free and open marketplace. The fact that there is the chance of competing in the field of ideas without having to resort to the use of arms at all times does not make the competition necessarily less difficult. On the contrary, winning has become more difficult. And the only way we can win is by being convinced above all that we have a superior idea to trade.

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PHILIPPINES

KM MANILA DEMONSTRATION SUPPORTS CEASE-FIRE

BK301222 Hong Kong AFP in English 1212 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Manila, 30 Nov (AFP)--Some 300 masked youths belonging to an underground organization marched for 30 minutes along a busy Manila street Sunday [30 November] in support of a ceasefire pact forged by the government and National Democratic Front (NDF) rebel alliance.

Members of the outlawed Nationalist Youths (KM), an NDF member organization, chanted "long live the ceasefire" and pro-communist slogans as they staged what they called a "lightning rally" in downtown Manila.

A KM spokesman interviewed earlier over a local radio station said the march was intended to show support for a 60-day renewable ceasefire starting 10 December and a "show of force" for the KM's 22nd anniversary Sunday.

Earlier, some 3,000 workers from the militant May First Movement (KMU) staged a rally near the presidential palace to demand justice for slain KMU leader Rolando Olalia, who was brutally murdered two weeks ago.

A commotion ensued towards the end of the rally when a drunk threw stones at anti-riot police guarding the road leading to the palace, prompting workers to scamper to safety, KMU leader Crispin Beltran said.

Police with high-powered firearms were seen around the presidential palace while the rally was going on, but no disturbance was reported and the workers dispersed peacefully, eyewitnesses said.

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PHILIPPINES

CHRONICLE DETAILS AVERTED COUP BIDS

HK260841 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 23 Nov 86 p 6

[Article by Sheila Coronel]

[Text] For weeks now, the country has been teetering on the brink of a military takeover. A delicate balance of contending forces somehow holds it in place but a fatal miscalculation could plunge it swiftly, inexorably, into the abyss.

Twice this month, a coup d'etat was averted by a combination of dialogue, compromise, threats of force and promises of concessions.

A minority faction of the Armed Forces, however, remains determined to seize power, driven by the realization that it can assert its supremacy only while the legal foundations of the government remain weak. For once the Constitution is ratified, it is perceived that the Aquino Government's legitimacy would be unassailable and ambitious military factions would have to give up extra-legal routes to power.

In the next 10 weeks therefore, the government will have to fight for its survival. It will have to make tough decisions and to take tough action. These 10 weeks of living at the razor's edge could very well be the most crucial in the short existence of the Aquino Government.

From all indications, destabilization efforts by military conspirators continue to be carried out. These efforts may have even been stepped up in alliance with forces still loyal to Ferdinand Marcos.

Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno said last week that Marcos loyalists, together with "right wing elements" in the military may be responsible for the recent spate of political violence, including the murder of labor leader Rolando Olalia.

CHRONICLE sources confirmed that plots have indeed been hatched involving military officers, loyalist elements and some officials of the present government.

In the first week of November, an intricate web of conspiracy was woven at a clandestine planning session attended by at least two high-ranking government officials, political party leaders, some generals and colonels of the Armed Forces and an assortment of personalities associated with the previous regime.

Detailed plans for a power seizure were discussed, with each of these groups doing its share in the effort. The forces were given the signal to move late on Sunday, 9 November, two days before the president left for Japan.

A coordinated strike against major installations was scheduled before dawn of 11 November but was averted after a last-minute meeting between Armed Forces chief-of-staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos and the military leaders of the conspiracy.

In Malacanang, meanwhile, troops were in the highest state of alert, ordered by the president to "repel all predatory forces." That entire weekend, beginning Friday, 7 November, Mrs Aquino's closest advisers stood vigil in the palace, plotting their own counter-coup moves.

In various military camps around Manila, commanders were ordered to keep watch over suspicious troops movements. Tensions reached their peak Monday evening when Malacanang received word that in one camp, engines were warmed up in preparation for a move.

On the day the president left for Tokyo, Ramos met with the chiefs of the service commands. A compromise formula was reached. With some reluctance, the chief of staff agreed to present a list of "recommendations" from the Armed Forces contained in the letter to the president which he himself signed. The conspirators, meanwhile, were urged to hold back to await a response to the recommendations.

The recommendations included a shorter cease-fire period, changes in the Cabinet, a concrete demonstration of strength against communists and a human rights committee to investigate abuses committed by insurgent forces.

These are demands which command great support from the Armed Forces, especially the increasingly restive officer corps, whether or not they supported the power seizure. Evidently, by agreeing to present these demands, the top military commanders and the chief of staff hoped to unite their forces and undercut the base of support for the coup plotters who have been openly agitating about these issues in recent months.

Thus, for the second time that week, a coup attempt was thwarted.

A slow motion coup, this is indeed, and one that stretches the limits of credulity. A well-advertised one, it is, too. Weeks, even months, before a move was actually attempted, military officers identified with Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile had been boasting to journalists that they would attempt a power seizure before the year was over.

If the intent was to weary the people and the government with what seemed a well-planned psychological-warfare effort built around unrelenting rumors of an impending coup coupled with a series of well-timed violent incidents, then it was to some extent successful.

For one, this thwarted stabilization and economic recovery efforts by the administration and portrayed to the people and to the world and the image of a government held hostage by its own Armed Forces. Perhaps the intent was to paralyze the government by continued threats of a power seizure until it collapsed from the weight of its own inertia and was left with no choice but to accept being "saved" by the military.

A military officer who is not part of the conspiracy said that the plotters explained that their efforts were meant to exert "calibrated pressures" on the government, thereby forcing it to yield, in a similarly calibrated way, to the conspirators' demands.

It was not a coup in the real sense, the plotters said, for Mrs Aquino was to remain head of state although the renegade military faction was to emerge the [words indistinct]-wielder in the ruling coalition.

The threat of a power seizure by an aggressive faction of the military based in the defense ministry has actually been in the air for the past several months, a military officer told THE CHRONICLE. Leaders of the faction noisily, and perhaps deliberately, clumsily telegraphed their moves while Enrile, in a series of provocative speeches, stepped up his campaign against the Aquino Government.

Last month, Ramos attempted to throw a monkey wrench on the conspiracy by convening the 10,000-man National Capital Region Defense Command (NCRDC) and putting it directly under the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces. The unit assumed full control and supervision over all military and police forces in Metro Manila. Supposedly formed to step up military preparedness against the communist insurgents, the command was actually a counter-coup force, according to officers identified with Ramos.

As an added pre-emptive measure, the crack anti-terrorist battalion headed by Enrile's long-time security chief, Lt Col Eduardo Kapunan, was put under the NCRDC, instead of the Defense Ministry as originally planned.

In the meantime, as the crisis intensified, civilian emissaries tried to bring Enrile and the president together in order to defuse the tension. The two met in the evening of 21 October when Enrile was reported to have presented to Mrs Aquino a list of demands, among them, a return to the 1973 Constitution, the reconvening of the Batasang Pambansa, a cabinet revamp, replacement of some local government officials and a deadline for the peace talks.

The president reportedly turned down the first two demands but promised to consider the latter three. The following day, she announced that she was setting a deadline for the cease-fire negotiations and hinted at a reshuffle of OICs [officers-in-charge].

The military renegades, however, remained dissatisfied with the presidential action and they told inquiring journalists as much. In the end, the deadline did not turn out to be necessary as the National Democratic Front (NDF) quickly responded with its own proposal for a 100-day cease-fire that made setting deadlines superfluous. In the meantime, the president continued to hedge on the Cabinet and OIC revamps.

As it became clear that Malacanang's strategy seemed to appease the conspirators with piecemeal promises of concessions, thereby hoping to ride out without much incident the crucial period until the Constitution was ratified, the plotters attempted to bring things to a head in the first week of November.

Military sources said that a takeover attempt was planned for 5 November but was aborted by its premature discovery, first by Ramos and then by Malacanang.

Meanwhile, as the coup plot became unraveled, a crisis set in among the middle-level officer corps in Manila which perceived that it would soon have to make a choice even more difficult than the one made in the February uprising. Beginning 31 October, several of the younger batches of the alumni classes of the Philippine Military Academy began meeting to discuss how they would react if a coup were staged and they would have to decide whether to defend or support either the Aquino Government or the renegade military faction.

After presenting the situation to themselves, the classes reached a consensus on several points:

- The chain of command was to be strictly followed, meaning that orders were to come from the commander-in-chief to the chief-of-staff of the National Command, with the power of the Defense Minister limited only to policy-making and administration, not to actual military operations.

- If one link in the chain refused to follow his superior, then the younger officers should try to convince him. If he still refused after the third try, then the underclassmen could arrest their superior.

- Communication lines must be kept open, no matter what.

- In an extreme situation, classmates should not try to hit each other.

- Moral convictions should overrule political or economic considerations.

This consensus was reinforced by continuous dialogue among senior military commanders, beginning with Ramos and the major service chiefs and their men. Always, the senior officers stressed that the chain of command was to be followed at all times.

In one of the class meetings, a junior officer assigned to the Presidential Security Group was reported to have posed his dilemma to his classmates. "It is my duty to protect Malacanang officials," he said. "If one of the targets of this 'tactical military operation' (the plotters' euphemism for a coup) is the Executive Secretary, then I would have to defend him with my life. Will any one of you shoot me for doing my duty?"

This soul-searching is still going on as the threat of a coup continues. For the officers, the problem is not so simple. As an articulate colonel put it, "we are not terribly sophisticated analysts of the political situation and many junior and middle-level officers can be led into believing that a coup is popular."

Said a retired general, "the officers are torn between what they perceive to be a well-meaning and popular government and their awareness that the government is weak and indecisive and could be unwittingly falling into the trap laid by insurgents."

The consensus among military officers interviewed by the CHRONICLE was that the renegade military faction articulates issues and causes dear to the hearts of the Armed Forces but the methods it chooses to achieve its ends do not get as much support.

"To be able to succeed in such an operation," said a reformist officer, "you need both the timing and the moral basis and they have neither. In February we were convinced that we had both. But the situation is not that bad, there is as yet no need to resort to extraordinary methods."

The officers warned, however, that the president would have to take hard decisions soon, if she wants to consolidate her control over the Armed Forces. They want her to concede to the recommendations made by the military if she wants to quiet the restiveness among their ranks.

For the palace advisers, it is a difficult dilemma. They concede that the president does not wield control over her own Armed Forces but they also realize that to give in totally to the military's demands would hold the government hostage to that institution. "The problem is, if we give them an arm, they would then demand our whole body," said a presidential adviser.

Some segments of this story cannot yet be told. Suffice it to say that, as is the nature of conspiracies in the Philippines, details of the 6 November attempt at a takeover were leaked separately to Ramos and then to the palace. Ramos reacted swiftly by issuing a warning against "military adventurists" in the afternoon of 6 November. He then held a series of meetings with senior military commanders, ordering them to neutralize any attempted takeover. He also met with Enrile, but military sources said he came back from the meeting "empty-handed."

In the meantime, the president, who learned of the attempt on 4 November, called her commanders to Malacanang beginning 5 November. On 6 November, she ordered Col Voltaire Gazmin, head of the Presidential Security Battalion, to repel any attack on the palace. With that the Ramos order to the commanders, there was a standoff and the coup forces were not able to move.

On Saturday morning, Ramos met with senior commanders who asked that he defuse tensions further by presenting to the president a consolidated list of recommendations on behalf of the Armed Forces. These demands were the same ones contained in a letter which Ramos had signed when he met with the commanders again the following Monday.

The previous night, the president and Enrile had met at the palace. It was reported that the Defense Minister demanded to be put at the helm of the government's counter-insurgency effort, to play the role of counter-insurgency czar, similar to the role played by then Defense Minister Ramon Magsaysay in the Quirino Administration.

In that new role, Enrile would have a free hand in the economic aspects of the counter-insurgency effort as well. It is said that the Defense Minister emerged from that meeting with the clear impression that the president had acceded to his demand.

But Sunday, the president lashed out at "self-appointed messiahs" in the military who, she said were threatening to destabilize her government. The military plotters took that as a declaration of war.

Ramos himself reportedly rejected Enrile's demand, believing that such would be used as another cover for a takeover.

Late Sunday, loyalist forces were given the signal to move together with the military rebels beginning late Monday evening. But for the second time, there was a standoff and the attempt was averted. "How long can we live on edge like this?" a civilian emissary between the palace and the Defense Ministry asked.

Though talk of a coup has subsided, some military officers believe that the coup plot has entered a quiet, perhaps more sinister, phase. Palace officials themselves have theorized that recent incidents of political violence are related to the takeover plot.

A widely discussed scenario includes escalating violence which will be used as a pretext to declare a state of national emergency and crack down on the Left, including those believed to be part of the Aquino Government. In this scenario the Armed Forces emerges as the dominant political force.

In the meantime, other forces are now actively participating in the political arena, most notably the forces of the Left. Leftist groups have threatened a massive people's strike (welgang bayan) in the event of a coup.

Moderate groups, meanwhile, are also reportedly mapping out their own anti-coup strategies. As in February, the wide base of unorganized citizens could be expected to join in the anti-coup efforts.

Even within the Armed Forces, there is talk of some quiet organizing going on against unrelenting coup efforts by a small, aggressive faction.

The government, meanwhile, is constrained to act soon. It is, said the emissary, in a "cruel dilemma." Arresting leaders of the conspiracy could precipitate a rash reaction from supporters of the renegade faction. Besides, as a presidential adviser said, "we do not want them to be perceived as being punished for taking an anti-communist line."

Recently, the government appeared to be willing to give in to some of the military's demands, including changing two Cabinet ministers and remaining firm on a 27 November deadline for the signing of a cease-fire agreement. The convening of a committee to look into rebel abuses is also being considered.

There are risks involved in whatever route the government choose. Whichever it opts to wield--the iron hands or the velvet glove--against its own Armed Forces, it cannot hedge action for very long.

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CSO: 4200/177

PHILIPPINES

MNLF, MILITARY TO DISCUSS CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

HK281411 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 28 Nov 86 p 8

[Text] The government's military panel will meet with its counterpart in the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to iron out and possibly investigate cease-fire violations allegedly committed by the MNLF or the New Armed Forces of the Philippines (NAFP).

Maj Gen (ret) Jose P. Magno Jr., head of the NAFP military panel, will meet with Brig Gen Abdul Sarin of the MNLF to discuss these "infractions" but no dates were mentioned on the proposed meeting.

Magno said the MNLF has written AFP Chief of Staff Gen Fidel V. Ramos, reporting attacks by soldiers on MNLF men in the Zamboanga peninsula.

The former Southern Command (Southcom) chief said there are reports of "recruitments and training of MNLF in the island provinces" but did not elaborate.

Magno said that these reports come from several sectors of the community. "We hope to find out with our MNLF counterpart about the veracity of this report," he said.

President Aquino and MNLF chairman Nur Misuari agreed during their 5 September meeting in Jolo, Sulu, for a cessation of hostilities while talks are going on to resolve the 14-year-old Mindanao problem.

In that Jolo meeting, Misuari had insisted that the proper word should be "cessation of hostilities" and not just "ceasefire."

Even before the meeting, Norberto Gonzales, chairman of the Partido Demokratiko Sosyalista ng Philippines (PDSP), has managed to secure a cease-fire between Philippine Marines and the MNLF in Sulu last 8 August.

The 8 August cease-fire enabled Agapito "Butz" Aquino, the president's emissary to the peace process, to proceed to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia to talk with Misuari into returning to the Philippines and seek a peaceful solution to the Mindanao problem.

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PHILIPPINES

NDF NOMINEES TO CEASE-FIRE COMMITTEE LISTED

OW010013 Tokyo KYODO in English 0002 GMT 1 Dec 86

[Text] Manila, 1 Dec (KYODO)--The leftwing Coalition National Democratic Front (NDF) has nominated legal, church and civic leaders to the national cease-fire committee which will monitor the 60-day truce between communist-led rebels and government troops, the NDF negotiating panel said Sunday.

Nominated were Supreme Court Justices Pedro Yap and Andres Narvasa, Cardinal Ricardo Vidal from Cebu in central Philippines, protestant Bishop la Verne Mercado, and civic leader Bing Escoda Roxas, director of the cultural center of the Philippines.

The source said the five will be considered for the three positions reserved for neutral members of the five-member national ceasefire committee. The two other positions will be filled by one representative each from the government and the NDF.

Government and NDF peace negotiators reached agreement on the ceasefire last Wednesday and signed the five-page document on the following day. A separate agreement providing rebel negotiators and their staff safety and immunity from harassment and arrest was also signed.

The government and the NDF will have to agree on the composition of the national ceasefire committee before 10 December, the beginning of the truce. The committee will also establish guidelines for local ceasefire committees.

Meanwhile, NDF negotiator Antonio Zumel said Sunday that all underground leftist groups under the wings of the coalition, including the communist-led New People's Army (NPA), have been directed to abide by the cease-fire agreement.

The NDF will impose "appropriate punishment" on NDF forces proven to have violated the agreement, Zumel said.

He said, however, that the NDF will have to take "painstaking efforts" to persuade NPA units in areas of heavy military presence and fierce fighting to persuade the guerrillas to respect the truce.

Zumel explained that antagonism between government troops and rebels and their supporters is high in areas of frequent military operations.

He said provinces northeast and southeast of Luzon, parts of central Philippines and the northern provinces of the main southern Philippine island of Mindanao are among areas of frequent clashes.

The guerrilla war waged by the NPA, which is estimated by the military to be 23,500-strong, has been raging since 1969 and has spread into 63 of the country's 73 provinces.

The ceasefire agreement between the government and the rebels is the first in the 17-year insurgency and came nine months after President Corazon Aquino was swept to power in a civilian-backed military revolt that ended the 20-year rule of Ferdinand Marcos.

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PHILIPPINES

CHURCH-SPONSORED NEGROS RALLY HAILS CEASE-FIRE

BK291204 Hong Kong AFP in English 1136 GMT 29 Nov 86

[Text] Bacolod, Philippines, 29 Nov (AFP)--Tens of thousands of impoverished sugar workers joined a church-backed rally here Saturday [29 November] to celebrate the signing in Manila of a ceasefire accord between the government and communist guerrillas. Participants raised placards in support of the ceasefire, eyewitnesses said. One read "Long live CPA [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA-NAFP [New Armed Forces of the Philippines]," referring to the banned communist party, its guerrilla army, and the Philippine Armed Forces.

Some 50,000 people gathered at a central square in this capital city of Negros Island in the central Philippines to attend a two-hour mass following a three-day peace march from far-flung towns, eyewitnesses said. Bishop Salvador Modesto told the assembly of plantation and mill workers, priests, nuns, and government officials that while Thursday's signing in the Philippine capital was hailed by all Filipinos, "It is especially significant for Negros." Negros, the seat of the country's troubled sugar industry, has been a focal point of the almost 18-year-old New People's Army rebellion with hungry and jobless sugar workers swelling the insurgent ranks, independent observers said.

The government of President Corazon Aquino signed a 60-day renewable ceasefire with the communists Thursday, following nearly four months of talks. It is to take effect 10 December.

Daniel Lacson, the governor of one of the two Negros provinces, said he welcomed the ceasefire accord "because now we may begin to seriously implement a socio-economic program with the help of all sectors and all ideologies." The local communist hierarchy also sent the Catholic Church an open letter of support and reiterated its standing invitation for the island's other bishop, Antonio Fortich, to head the local ceasefire monitoring panel.

The bishop had been conducting peace talks with local NPA guerrillas on his own initiative, and has been accused by right-wing sugar planters of being a communist himself. Bishop Fortich did not attend the rally, but his secretary Jose Trongko told reporters that the bishop had told his priests that "I cannot refuse the request of our rebel brothers." The two sides are to set up joint national and local committees to monitor the ceasefire, and talks aimed at reaching a permanent peaceful solution are due to start within a month.

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PHILIPPINES

PAPER ANALYZES MODERATE TENDENCIES OF CEASE-FIRE PARTIES

HK300729 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 28 Nov 86 pp 1, 5

["Analysis" column by Editor in Chief Amando Doronila: "Moderate Politics Led to Agreement"]

[Text] A historic compromise bringing together antagonistic political and social tendencies in the nation unfolded at Club Filipino yesterday with the signing of the cease-fire agreement between the centrist bourgeois government of President Aquino and the National Democratic Front.

The compromise is perhaps as dramatic and as significant as the abandonment by Western European Communist parties--especially the Italian Communist Party--of the Stalinist doctrine of seizing state power through aggressive class struggle by the working class. In rejecting the doctrine, the European extreme-Left parties opted for participation in the plural political arena as a path to power, making themselves available for coalitions with center and center-left (Social Democratic) parties.

This is not to suggest that in signing the truce, the NDF and the groups it represents, including the Communist Party of the Philippines, have followed the strand of Eurocommunism that evolved from their own "historic compromises."

What I am saying is that what actually happened at Club Filipino was that moderate tendencies in the NDF, in the government and even within the military have gained ascendancy over the extremism of the left and of the right and have now reached an accommodation to halt hostilities--a cessation that sets the stage for further dialogue under a calm atmosphere, on the great social issues that divide this nation.

It is symbolic that the venue for this historic cease-fire the first in the 17 year insurgency led by the NPA on behalf of the poor against an unjust social order--is the watering hole of the traditional elite, Club Filipino. The acceptance by the NDF of Club Filipino as the ceremonial climax of cease-fire negotiations is implicitly a compromise from doctrinaire class warfare tenets.

This is not to say that the Left has been embourgeoisized. What seems to make sense is that the left has taken part in the process that has transformed the character of the mainly middle-class EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] revolution of last February.

The left was excluded from a dominant role in the February revolution because of its foolish decision to boycott the 7 February snap presidential elections. The dominance of the middle forces of the liberal democratic types was formalized by the installation of the coalition led by Corazon Aquino on 25 February.

But the transformation of the EDSA revolution was very evident yesterday in the absence at Club Filipino of the traditional elite whose members celebrated the accession of the Aquino Government in February. Yesterday's heroes and media stars at Club Filipino were leaders of the depressed classes of Filipino society--the peasantry and the industrial proletariat.

The EDSA revolution has indeed metamorphosed since it broke out nine months ago. And the transformation of the power structure of the revolution has made possible the breakthrough in the truce negotiations and the signing of the cease-fire agreement.

The break-up of the EDSA coalition, in which Juan Ponce Enrile was a major partner representing the far right political tendency, created the conditions in which political moderation won.

The dismissal of Enrile from the Aquino Cabinet not only meant the rupture of the original EDSA alliance. It also cleared the negotiations of obstacles that would have prevented the signing of the cease-fire agreement. It opened the floodgates through which mechanisms of compromise burst out.

The breakthrough at Club Filipino was preceded by a series of crises in which the far right of the EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] coalition tried to topple the government in the bid to move its orientation to a more autocratic and less politically tolerant political order.

The destabilization campaign by the far right, whose power base was a faction in the military, led to the final showdown last weekend. In that showdown, the government, backed by the more moderate or centrist tendency in the military, decisively demolished the far right and isolated it from the emerging main stream of political moderation.

One outcome of that showdown is that the military has emerged solidified behind the moderate and more flexible leadership of now Defense Minister Rafael Ilete and the Armed Forces Chief of Staff, Gen Fidel Ramos.

Their control of the military and the crucial role played by the Armed Forces in saving the government from the assault of the far right may have made Mrs Aquino more dependent for its life on the military. But one must not ignore the fact that the government, following the dismissal of Enrile, is now fighting off assaults from within, and is working in unison.

The other important factor that works in favor of the government and perhaps for a more democratic balance between military and civilian authority is that the new leadership at defense is more reasonable and flexible in its approach to the insurgency problem.

The removal of Enrile and the consolidation of the Iletto-Ramos leadership make the government confident that it is dealing with a leadership that is in control and is speaking with one voice.

Ideologically speaking, there is nothing incompatible with the goals of the military and those of the government in terms of dealing with the communist insurgency. Both want to defeat it. But Mrs Aquino's formula calls for a more complex shuffling of both socio-economic and military weapons than what Enrile had advocated.

The decisive isolation of the far right in the military after the weathering of the coup crisis of the weekend has permitted both the moderate tendency in the military and the government to give Mrs Aquino's policy of peace a chance to work.

Whether or not the ceasefire will lead to the elimination of the basic issues that have fuelled social unrest remains to be seen. What cannot be denied is that moderation in politics is shaping the mode of compromise among the military, the civilian political institutions and the left.

This dynamic of moderation offers hope that in the continuing revolution after EDSA, extremism and violence could be avoided in effecting social and political change. It seems possible that the left, the center and the non-violent right can, as the French would say, co-habit in evolving a more just and equitable Filipino society.

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PHILIPPINES

COMMENTARIES SUPPORT RECENTLY SIGNED CEASE-FIRE

MALAYA on Issues for Discussion

HK281531 Quezon City ANG PAHAGZGANG MALAYA in English 28 Nov 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Roadblocks to Permanent Peace"]

[Text] The ceasefire agreement forged between the Aquino Government and the communist rebels is truly a tribute to the Filipino's passion for an honorable peace. It proves we are convinced that in war there are no winners, but in an atmosphere of peace all sides triumph.

It is unfortunate, however, that we only have 60 days within which to pave the difficult road to a permanent peace. The period affords the parties but little time to get down to the hardest part of their dialogue--the issues that could lead to a satisfactory political settlement of the 17-year insurgency.

The savage war cannot be simply dismissed by just saying that the rebels are not communists but people disgusted with deposed President Marcos. The former dictator would long be gone, but the conditions that bred the insurgency--conditions that his rotten regime magnified a hundred times over--will still be with us, unless the Aquino Administration takes the problem by the horn.

What are the issues the National Democratic Front wants to discuss? There are four basic ones: the U.S. military and other foreign aid; U.S. military bases in the Philippines; genuine agrarian reform; and foreign (especially American) domination of the economy.

Now, these are issues that communists cannot claim a monopoly of, and the government should not be afraid to discuss these simply because they happen to be the favorite of the rebels.

It is a fact--and one does not have to be a communist to know or believe this--that the Philippines remained economically and politically backward because its leaders have allowed all sorts of impositions on its sovereignty by foreign masters.

It is a fact that, despite the long procession of well-meaning leaders from the elite, this country never truly benefited from the billions of dollars in aid and loans that have been poured into it through the years, and that these elitist leaders could never appreciate the need for true land reform.

It is a fact that the 18 U.S. military bases in this country, the two biggest being Clark and Subic, will not and cannot compensate for the security risks and social problems their presence here has spawned, notwithstanding the endless declarations of friendship by a succession of U.S. presidents and ambassadors.

After taking the bold step on the road to ceasefire, the Aquino Government should take even bolder moves toward the political settlement that will end the bloodshed.

CHRONICLE on 'Historic Opportunity'

HK281521 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 28 Nov 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Stability Derives from Leadership"]

[Text] As this is being written, the government and the NDF [National Democratic Front] panels are signing the ceasefire agreement which would open the door for negotiations on more substantive issues. If nothing will derail the scheduled signing and the process of negotiations later, the Aquino Government will have gained indeed, an auspicious condition for firming up the institution of a democratic government--one that, we hope, can continue to influence progressively the quality of future governments. This is one historic opportunity the Aquino Government cannot miss.

The ceasefire agreement comes after the removal of a major stumbling block to reforms within the government--the continued existence in the Armed Forces of part-rightists and part-Marcos loyalists out to topple the government. With the aborting of the coup plot and the resignation of Juan Ponce Enrile from the Defense Ministry, the government has been given, in President Aquino's words, an opportunity for a "fresh start."

Last February, the country also had a chance at a fresh start. The Aquino Government, however, miserably lost the opportunity provided by history with its seemingly mindless adoption of short term policies, its vacillation over important issues which it committed itself to address during the campaigns, and its lack of rigor in the screening of appointees.

While, therefore, the resignation of all Cabinet members provides the government the occasion to rectify some of its previous errors, it is a mistake to think that the mere replacement of certain Cabinet members will have already addressed all the previous shortcomings of the government.

The poor choice of men for key positions, if we must be so blunt, was only one of the government's early errors. Having some inept and--as experience has shown--rather corrupt officials in place, the government did not exert sufficient leadership either in coming up with a consolidated program, beginning with the significant area of the economy to a clear political orientation in the interim years before a constitution can be approved. Rather, it waited passively for the Con-Com [Constitutional Commission] to define its political philosophy.

Then, again, without exerting any influence on the deliberations of the Con-Com --a commendable act in certain ways--it has already committed itself to campaign for the ratification of the draft charter. The government has yet to say what it seeks to do on certain ambiguous provisions which could be remedied later by legislation.

The fact is that a government, without trying to influence opinion by coercion, could influence the direction of the public philosophy positively. This is important because the Aquino Government is definitely perceived to be committed to the establishment of democratic institutions, to liberal debates on matters of public issue, to standards of morality and nationalism. Being committed to these ideals means working for them, without using the coercive mechanism of the state's police power, or the judiciary of prison. It can do so by putting its moral influence on enlightened views and supporting civic and professional movements that can strengthen the ramparts of a democratic dispensation.

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PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

KALAW ON CABINET SHAKE-UP--A top-to-bottom revamp of the bureaucracy and the removal of incompetents, grafters, and undesirable element in government service topped a five-point agenda presented yesterday by Liberal Party President Eva Estrada Kalaw. In a news conference at her San Juan residence, Kalaw said the Liberal Party welcomed the fresh start President Aquino announced this week. She said it was a rare second chance to bring about national reconciliation and economic recovery. But Kalaw explained that the Cabinet revamp announced by the president falls short of a true clean-up and streamlining of government bureaucracy. [Text] [Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0400 GMT 30 Nov 86 HK] /9738

CIVILIAN FIREARMS MEASURE--Defense Minister Iletto has stopped the unauthorized issue of mission orders and memorandum receipts by the military, to curb the proliferation of loose firearms in the country. Iletto's move followed the directive of President Aquino Thursday, which expressed concern over the increasing number of firearms in the hands of the civilians. Mission orders and memorandum receipts allowed the civilians to carry firearms. In his order to Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos, Iletto said only the following can be given mission orders and memorandum receipts: the regular enlisted agents, those occupying [word indistinct] positions and agents, and those employed for specific operations, projects, and durations, with specific written appointment from the president or the minister of national defense. Iletto also ordered Ramos to recall and cancel all unauthorized mission orders and memorandum receipts. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 28 Nov 86 HK] /9738

MANILA RALLY SUPPORTS CONSTITUTION--A large group of demonstrators gathered at the Quirino grandstand yesterday [30 November] to pledge their support for the 1986 Constitution. The rallyists were led by MMC [Metro Manila Commission] Governor Joey Lina and Butz Aquino. The rally was estimated by the police to be attended by 50,000 people. It was intended to generate massive support for the approval of the new constitution. Former President Diosdado Macapagal said the proposed constitution is the best we ever had. Former Senators Raul Manglapus and Manuel Manahan also endorsed the new constitution. They said that the ratification of the new charter on February 2 would bring peace and stability to the country. They said the new constitution is much better than

the 1935 and 1973 Constitutions because it gives every Filipino, whether rich or poor, a chance to improve his status in life. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 30 Nov 86 HK] /9738

CITIZENS' ARM FOR ELECTIONS--The Commission on Elections [Comelec] has accredited the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections [Namfrel] as Comelec's citizens' arm for the general registration of voters on December 6, 7, 13, and 14 and for the February 2 plebiscite on the proposed constitution. The Comelec made as one of the conditions for the accreditation the resignations from Namfrel of commissioners Christian Monsod, Ricardo Romulo, and Teresa Nieva. They were members of the 1986 Constitutional Commission which had drafted the Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 27 Nov 86 HK] /9738

ADB ROAD IMPROVEMENT LOAN--The ADB [Asian Development Bank] approved a technical assistance loan for a Philippine road improvement project. This was stated two days ago (25 November) by the Manila-based ADB. The ADB approved an 82 million loan and technical assistance grant for the fourth road improvement project of the Philippines. The project will improve 715 kilometers of national highways in Cebu, Mindanao, and Negros. It will include detailed engineering of 710 kilometers of rural roads, including bridges, in Luzon, Negros, Panay, and Mindanao. [Text] [Beijing International Service in Tagalog 1130 GMT 27 Nov 86 HK] /9738

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THAILAND

SUPATRA DEFENDS PHICHAI ON PARTY MANAGEMENT

Bangkok LAENG KHAO in Thai 22-28 Sep 86 pp 21-23

[Interview with Supatra Masadit, Democratic Party spokesperson; interviewer not identified, date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] What are your feelings and your opinions about the movement by a faction of the party membership to expel Mr Phichai Rattakul as party chief?

[Answer] I truly feel that the Democratic Party has always been able to discuss anything that arises; therefore, I would like to ask how sincere those members who signed the petition are about this being a family matter. If it is really a family matter as they have said, they should not have listed more than 60 names; 10-20 people could have presented a resolution to consider the matter within the party.

But what is happening now is that waves of rumors have been spreading for months that a petition will be filed. I myself as party spokesperson must repeatedly ask the party head if there has been any petition. I need to, so that I know what I as spokesperson should do, because reporters chase me down and ask me, and I say that we have never gotten a petition. Then reporters accuse me of not responding to them. I must respond to the news media when I am the party spokesperson.

But finally, when we gave interviews, some persons were mentioned and petitions were filed requesting me to help deny that those named had signed the petition, as others had claimed they did. And many people told me that they had signed the petition thinking that it was a request for a talk, and without knowing that at the end of the petition there was a request for the resignation of the party chief.

So I asked myself, is it true that they intend to build up the party, to expand it and make it operate in the right way? These are questions about the sincerity of the people who have said that this is a family matter. After all, this is not the first time that these questions have been raised in the Democratic Party. There have always been vehement arguments but they have been sincere, so they have never turned violent. It is OK after they talk it out, if people are sincere about improving the party.

This time, if they weren't satisfied that the chief had fully answered their questions within the party, they should not have gone and screamed about it outside. I would have signed a petition requesting the chief to examine himself, if it had reached that stage. But they didn't give him any chance to explain what he was unclear about. And from nowhere, they said you're not good--one, two, three, four reasons, we request you to resign. You are the accuser and the judge rolled into one. How can this be when the party still has definite rules and belongs to the people of the entire nation, and has hundreds of thousands of members, not just MP's and 11 administrators?

I am very hurt for the other members.

[Question] Some. But we cannot be very definite; then they will scream again that it is not so, that they are doing it to improve the party. That's why I question their sincerity. If they want to improve the party, why don't they do it quietly in the family, since they claim that it is a family matter, don't they?

Therefore, when others conclude that it is a matter of being brokenhearted, I have a few opinions. I would like to recall the time when Mr Thanat was party head during Prem 2 or 3, and there was a petition to impeach him. That was because those who lost ministerial positions said that Mr Thanat had violated party resolutions and that he had let the prime minister choose those he wanted as ministers from the party. They said, why not let the party itself choose them.

This time, the same group of people who last ministerial positions screamed about why hadn't they proposed the names for the prime minister to choose from? Why from 25 proposed names had only 16 been chosen? Actually, to my own knowledge, the party head did send all 25 names, but he could not help it that the prime minister asked him about the qualifications of so and so. It's possible that the chief may have said that this or that one is very good. I don't know; I wasn't there, so I cannot help you.

I am very perplexed. I myself was involved in both incidents. In one incident, the party head was going to be expelled and my group was helping to solve the problem. I can confirm and have stressed at conferences what the party rules were at that time and I have tapes as proof. When they were disappointed, they came and impeached the party head, saying that he had violated party rules. Actually, he hadn't; that's how the rules were. But because they were mad about not being nominated, they blamed the chief for letting the prime minister choose and for not choosing himself.

Similarly, this time it turned out that those who were not chosen came and asked why the chief had sent the exact number of names to the prime minister and why he hadn't let the prime minister choose? I said, what is this? These are the same group of people like those in Prem 2 and Prem 3, so I question what happened.

[Question] We can only conclude that they did not get ministerial positions.

[Answer] I would like to use the minister of justice's statement, that this is what normally happens every time new ministers are nominated. Some people feel they deserve positions, but that others don't; it is normal, it will die down finally. But in this case, there might be a lot of people disappointed; then it takes longer to die down. But I think, based on my experience in forming many governments, that this kind of problem arises every time, although some are more serious than others. Every time, there are some guys who think that they are more qualified than others, which they have the right to think.

But at least they should reason out why other people are less qualified for positions than they.

[Question] Is it true that this movement is also a matter of person dissatisfaction and conflict?

[Answer] True. I can say it is true, based on my experience. I heard a participant in this movement curse out Mr Phichai in 1983, saying that, "I will never forgive Mr Phichai." The reason for this is that Mr Phichai had refused to pay off his personal debts. This is a true story, I can swear to it. This person confided in me, so I don't want to mention his name because it would damage his image more.

But I can confirm my feelings about this. He might deny that he is building on his previous resentment this time. But I swear, I'm certain that he is, because he told me that he would never forgive Mr Phichai then, absolutely not.

But my question is, what must the party head do, if he has to pay off debts for every party member? Should he be corrupt, at the same time that we are urging him to be honest, to sacrifice for the general interest and to practice what we preach to the villagers? We say that we want MP's to be honest, but at the same time, villagers come and ask MP's to give this and that favor. It's beyond their capability. It is the same thing here.

Therefore, I think it is impossible for the head of the Democratic Party--not to mention the heads of other parties--to waste money paying off debts for party members. I would like to emphasize that this is one thing only; there are also other things, but I don't think they are important enough to mention. I emphasize this to show that many people are motivated partly by personal spite.

I would like to talk about the case of Mr Luchart Bunsawan. The party head behaved inappropriately toward this party member at a meeting. I would like to tell you that I partly blame the chief for what happened that day when Mr Luchart came out and said that the chief is a dupe and a dictator. The chief explained to him fully and in a good mood that, "You cannot say that about me," and he explained one, two, three, four, stating that the rules are. He said, "Please don't say that I am a dupe

or a dictator because I consider that an insult; if I were really like that, I could not live any more."

The chief prevailed upon him to be in a good mood, but Mr Luchart screamed again, saying, "Dupe." The chief couldn't take it anymore; he walked to Mr Luchart, saying, "You take your words back right now." This was not very nice for the party chief to do, and I blame him for doing something beneath a party head. Everyone is entitled to his emotions, but when you are a senior leader, you cannot show your emotions like that. I criticize him as a party chief for being emotional, but as a normal human being--if he were not chief--what he did was understandable. Frankly, if it had been me, I would have immediately punched Mr Luchart in the face, because while the chief had urged him in a friendly way, like a member of the same family, Mr Luchart still screamed like that.

I think the chief was mistaken to say what he did, but was it a fatal mistake? By this, I mean that I would blame the chief if he had not asked Mr Luchart nicely first, and done what he did. But the chief had pleaded with him not to say such things, and explained that he had not deceived anyone. The minister of justice also helped explain this. He said, how can Mr Luchart say that Mr Phichai is a dictator when Mr Phichai sent 25 names to the prime minister to choose from?

[Question] Please explain whether the problems that have arisen in forming the cabinet are normal. Is the ministerial nomination of Doctor Phichit, Mr Phichai's son, fair? It has been singled out for strong attacks.

[Answer] I would like to stress Doctor Phichit's case. In this case, the one thing wrong is that Doctor Phichit has the last name Rattakul; being the son of Mr Phichai is the only thing wrong. Actually, he received the fourth highest number of votes from the party MP assembly and the Administrative Committee in the voting for central region representatives.

[Question] What is the quota for the central region?

[Answer] It was formerly a few people, but we voted for additional ones with Mr Phichit ranking fourth, Mr Chalermphanh fifth. Mr Marut ranked 1st with 98 votes, General Harn and Mr Sombai tied for 2d with the same number of 92 votes, Mr Phiphit got 70 and Mr Chalermphanh got 68. When you review Doctor Phichit's qualifications, you will see that he knows party plans and projections, especially because he has assisted Prof Damrong Latphiphat a lot. He is the only PhD in Parliament, not to mention the party.

In terms of knowledge, qualifications and receiving the fourth highest number of votes, nobody could say if he did not get nominated that the vote count was not the principal criterion. But why aren't they suspicious about Mr Visit Sengthong, who got to be a minister even though he is a brand new MP and has never worked to help the party. Nevertheless, he got the second highest number of votes among northeast region representatives.

Why hasn't anybody questioned this? Because he doesn't have the last name Rattakul, does he?

I would like to tell you one more story. Doctor Phichit heard reports that people seemed to be surprised that we didn't have that high a quota of ministerial positions and that some were afraid they would not be nominated, so they were unhappy. They were afraid that Doctor Phichit would get a position because he had received the fourth highest number of votes. Doctor Phichit asked me if he should give up his right, so I insisted to him that he should not. I emphasized to him that when the party places its confidence in you with 70 votes, you must take the post, that you can not give up your right. That's what I said to Doctor Phichit.

Even though I did not vote for Doctor Phichit, I would like to ask why 70 people voted for him if they did not intend to have him as a minister? Mr Phichit had to ask himself how he could give up his right when the party had placed its confidence in him. Personally, I would like to emphasize that Doctor Phichit has the right to be a minister.

[Question] How have the problems that arose earlier hurt the party?

[Answer] They have hurt the party, for certain. When the election ended, everyone returned home and was asked about this matter. For example, Mr Vinai Ngamsathien, a former member of the Party Administrative Committee and a worker for the northern party branch, said that thousands of people at a meeting for electing the president of school administrators and teachers had asked why things had turned out this way. They, like millions of others who support the Democratic Party, had voted for us and questioned why they got such confused leadership. I can not imagine how these people feel and how hurt they must be that after voting for us, we fight among ourselves over positions and ruin the party.

This also has impacted the stability of the government by impacting politicians. The general public feels that politicians are good only at fighting for their personal interests, that politicians don't care that rice cannot be sold now, that there are droughts, that rice prices are low, how much the price of rubber goes up or down. Even the everyday people who voted for us are saying this. Hundreds of thousands of party members must think that there are problems in the Democratic Party when personal interests are affected--despite the lessons of 1975 which should have taught us not to be like that again.

[Question] Do you think there is a way out of these problems?

[Answer] The solution is to talk inside the party. Whatever questions you have--What do you want? Why do you want to impeach me?--Mr Phichai can explain if you are not satisfied. We must call for an extraordinary meeting or whatever you want to call it. The party has procedures; it is not that you suspect one, two, three, and then don't give him a chance to defend himself. And then you decide the verdict--that he must be

expelled--because he has displeased you, and you don't care what party members around the country think.

OK, so you claim that 62 MP's signed the petition, but at least 5 have come and confirmed to me that they did not sign, but that their names had been used. And how many more are there in this case who haven't told me. And one group said they had signed because they thought they were signing a request for a talk. OK, so you might claim that all 62 had signed the petition. But are these 62 the ones who will decide the verdict for the party branches, which chose Mr Phichai to be the party head? These 62 cannot judge for the entire membership of the party; therefore, we must proceed according to procedures.

[Question] How do you think this incident will end?

[Answer] I have always thought that it will end well because we know that those who were undecided are complaining that they feel they have been manipulated. Those who intended that Mr Phichai be expelled say that the petition was OK, and they have not come to complain, which is their right. But I see a pattern among many of those who have complained. If they were sincere and thought that their petition was genuine, why would they claim the names of those who had not signed? Why would they claim that persons who do not want to expel our leader had said that they did?

A simple example shows another important thing. The petition leader claimed that Doctor Sukit and Mr Vichien Kanchong, who are MP's from Trang, didn't sign because the petition was not brought to them. Actually, these two told me that they had been invited to a party and asked to sign, but that they had refused. If you don't dare to say that people wouldn't sign when you asked them, then you're afraid that this incident will show that many people don't agree with you. This shows the insincerity of the active petitioners.

Therefore, regarding what you have asked me today, I think that a portion of people are aware that they have become tools of those who are ruining the party, and destroying the hopes of outsiders. I am optimistic that it will end well.

[Question] Have you talked with Mr Phichai about this since the incident?

[Answer] We meet together in Government House every Tuesday. I ask him every time I see him if he has received the petition, but he has never gotten it. I ask him how he is; he says he has been working normally, that he is not worried, that the state of our party is normal. He certainly does not give the appearance of someone who is very worried.

This does not mean that he does not care about the party members. He does not worry because he is honest, he does not think he did anything wrong. I have never heard him complain or be discouraged about politics at all.

[Question] Are the members who screamed and talked impolitely and violently with the party head considered to have violated party discipline? Must they be punished?

[Answer] It is certainly bad manners. Party discipline does not list this or that, but it is bad manners indeed. One should not burn up his home for no reason. But we never talk about discipline in the party; we talk about being news sources for incorrect reports that ruin the party. There was a proposal to modify that, but it was cancelled because we say that in a democracy we live together as brothers and sisters, so we should not do that.

Therefore, there will be no punishment, but society will surely punish them. Persons with mouths like that will not be much trusted by the people anymore.

[Question] Do you think there will be changes inside the party because of those incidents, so that similar problems will not arise?

[Answer] In the future, I think the cabinet will be voted on. This problem arises every time because in forming a cabinet, everyone thinks that he is qualified for the job, and there are more people than jobs. Therefore, next time we must talk clearly about what the rules will be, and then vote. Will we let first termers be ministers? Prof Supachai Phanitphak, himself, who is the hope of the country, has also been condemned by some who say that he should not be allowed to be a minister as he made himself one; that is disgusting.

Therefore, next time we must set a definite number of ministers, then vote and let the party decide how many persons will be presented to the prime minister. If the prime minister does not accept as competent some of those elected by the party, let the party review the matter again. If the party insists on a person, and he is not nominated, then it should withdraw him or be willing to present another candidate. But let's vote for the same number of ministers that will be accepted; that will end the issue.

One more thing: many of the newcomers involved are disoriented, which is something the older members have not paid any attention to. Consequently I think I have started a coffee klatch. Anyone who wants to know about Parliament or anything, let's talk, have informal discussions. Formerly, I was determined to set up seminars starting the second week after MP's are inaugurated, but I was involved with this problem so my intentions failed.

Therefore, I have turned to this coffee klatch instead. We stay late every Friday and talk about various issues, and what are we going to organize, then bring in experts and make a personal summary so that newcomers will not be lonely. We should set up a definite organization. Right now we have a problem: The people who work for the party, work until they almost die, but their colleagues say, heh, you get more work

than I do. However, when these latter people are called upon to work, they do not come. In Thai society, there is this thing that no one wants to see anyone else be better off than they. They fear that if a person works hard, he will be a minister. Heh, why don't you come and do some work and then you will be a minister. But then they say, no, I have other business to do.

This is a characteristic that must be changed; there should be better organization. I alone cannot give my opinion yet; there must be management meeting with the MP's. But I think closeness and warmth in personal matters are very important, so that we can talk easily.

And another thing that I want to mention is that all conflicts are very easy to solve, if you know the background.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

ILLEGAL TRADERS, BOOTLEG FILM DISTRIBUTORS ARRESTED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 14 Sep 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by My Lam: "Water Route Traffic Police and Precinct 5 Public Security Forces Discovered and Arrested Many Illegal Traders and People Who Showed Prohibited Movies; Culprits Who Showed Prohibited Films Pooled Money To Purchase Projectors"]

[Text] During August, the Water Route Traffic Police Bureau stepped up its patrols and inspections along the rivers and coastal areas. It coordinated things with the public security forces in subprecincts 10 and 18 in Precinct 1 three times and eliminated a number of assembly points for social parasites. The Water Route Traffic Police Bureau arrested 15 heroin addicts and sent them for rehabilitation.

The bureau also coordinated things closely with the public security forces in precincts 1 and 4, Binh Thanh Ward, and Thu Duc District in order to conduct frequent patrols and inspections along the rivers. They uncovered 15 cases of people trading and transporting contraband goods, recovered many valuable commodities, and arrested 42 criminals and 31 people living in illegal residences.

Hooligans meet together and pool their money to purchase video cassettes. They use their familiarity with the movie theaters to sign contracts to show films. Phan Van Trung, Truong Khang Tien, and Lien Huu Van used these contracts many times to show prohibited films. On 2 September 1986, after the final film at the Lao Dong A theater, Trung, Tien, and Van took a projector and showed the prohibited film at 339/53A Le Van Sy Street, for which they charged admission. They were caught red-handed by Precinct 5 public security forces.

That same day, Precinct 5 public security forces also arrested Tran Dinh Kinh, who lives in Subprecinct 1, Precinct 5, for showing a prohibited video film to many people.

Internal affairs are continuing to be clarified in order to have suitable measures to prosecute such people.

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CSO: 4209/80

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

ARMY CONFERENCE ON TRAINING--From 29 to 31 October in Haiphong City, the general staff held a conference to review training work at all local military schools in provinces, cities, and special zones throughout the country from 1983 to September 1986. Attending the conference were deputy commanders of various military regions and representatives from provincial and city military commands and military schools. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 3Nov 86 BK] /9738

CSO: 4209/139

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VIETNAM

TRUONG CHINH GREET'S LAO LEADER'S REELECTION

OW190401 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] On 16 November [as heard], Comrade Truong Chinh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, addressed the following congratulatory message to Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane on his reelection as general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (OPRP) Central Committee:

Dear Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, on behalf of the CPV Central Committee and in my own behalf, I convey to you my warmest fraternal congratulations on your election as general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee.

I wish you the best of health and brilliant success in your noble mission.

We are convinced that, under the clear-sighted leadership of the glorious OPRP headed by you, the Lao working class and people of all tribes will surely win brilliant success in implementing the resolutions of the Fourth LPRP Congress, aimed at building a peaceful, independent, unified, and socialist Laos, thus actively contributing to consolidating and strengthening the strategic alliance between Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, and to the common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress in Southeast Asia and elsewhere in the world.

May the special solidarity, great friendship, and comprehensive cooperation between the parties and peoples of Vietnam and Laos be everlasting.

My Communist salutations!

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

SRV DELEGATION'S 14-15 NOV ACTIVITIES IN LAOS

OW161001 Hanoi VNA in English 0740 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA, November 16--The Communist Party of Vietnam delegation led by Pham Van Dong, political bureau member of the Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended a reception given in Vientiane last night by the Lao people's Revolutionary Party Central Committee in honour of the success of the 4th LPRP Congress.

In the morning the same day, Chairman Pham Van Dong cordially received a delegation of the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association led by Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the LPRP Central Committee and minister of industry and handicraft, and president of the association.

Speaking on this occasion, Pham Van Dong stressed:

"The revolutionary cause of the two countries is closely associated that is the law governing the existence and development of the revolution in each country. In the past, our two peoples did love, unite with, and help each other. Now they should continue their mutual love and assistance and unity ever more and forever".

Chairman Pham Van Dong also received representatives of the Vietnamese Residents' Association in Vientiane.

On November 14 and 15, Nguyen Van Linh, political bureau member of the CPV Central Committee, visited several economic and cultural establishments in Vientiane, including some factories built with Vietnam's assistance.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

LAO PARTY CONGRESS OPENS; PHAM VAN DONG CITED

OW131814 Hanoi VNA in English 1549 GMT 13 Nov 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA, Nov. 13--The Fourth Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party was opened in Vientiane this morning with the participation of 303 delegates representing 40,000 party members throughout the country.

Present on the presidium were Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the LPRP CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nouhak Phoumsavan, Politburo member of the LPRP CC and first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; Souphanouvong, Politburo member of the LPRP CC; Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, acting president of the republic, and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; General Khamtai Siphandon, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of national defence; Phoum Sipaseut, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, head of the party CC Commission for External Affairs, and minister for foreign affairs; Sisonphon Lovansaï, Politburo member of the LPRP CC and vice-chairman of the People's Supreme Assembly, and others.

Foreign guests present on the presidium were Pham Van Dong, Politburo member of the CPV CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam; Heng Samrin, general secretary of the PRPK CC and president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, G.A. Aliyev. Pham Van Dong, who is also chairman of the Council of Ministers, said:

"Opened at the time when the situation in the world and in the region has seen many changes favourable for the forces of revolution and peace, and when the position and force of the Lao revolution are ever stronger, the 4th Congress will open a new prospect for the Lao revolution.

"Political report of the Party Central Committee delivered by esteemed comrade general secretary Kaysone Phomvihane, an outstanding leader of the Lao party and people, is the creative application of Marxism-Leninism, sums up the precious experiences of the Lao revolution, puts forth a correct line and policies, and clearly points out appropriate steps measures for the continuous and firm advance of the Lao revolution.

"Over the past 10 years, under the clear-sighted leadership of the LPRP, a party armed by invincible Marxism-Leninism, the Lao people, promoting their

patriotism, overcoming untold difficulties and tests, implementing the resolutions of the 2nd and 3rd congresses and other resolutions of the LPRP, have continuously gained great and multifaceted successes in the cause of building and defending their beloved homeland".

Praising the substantial comprehensive achievements of the Lao people, Phan Van Dong noted that "the position and prestige of the Lao people's democratic republic, and outpost of the socialist system in Southeast Asia, have risen in international arena. Those great successes have brightened the LPRP which has close relations with the masses, constantly upholds the two banners of Politburo members of the CPSU CC and first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and the heads of the delegations of the communist party of Bulgaria, the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, the Polish United Workers' Party, the Communist Party of Cuba, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, the Workers' Party of Korea, the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Frelimo Party of Mozambique, the French Communist Party, the Portuguese Communist Party, the Italian Communist Party, the Sandinista National Liberation Front of Nicaragua and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

After the opening speech made by Phoumi Vongvichith, the congress heard the political report delivered by Kayson Phomviharn and the report of socio-economic development by Nouthak Phoumsaven.

The congress will review and evaluate the past achievements especially during the period between the third and present congresses.

It will lay down the strategic tasks of the Lao revolution during the transitional period to socialism, set the orientations, targets and tasks for the period up to the year 2000, and adopt the second five-year state plan (1986-90). The congress will also adopt amendments to the party statutes and elect a new central committee of the party.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

VNA REPORTS END OF FOURTH LAO PARTY CONGRESS

OW170743 Hanoi VNA in English 0722 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA, Nov. 17--The Fourth Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party on its closing session on November 15, unanimously adopted a resolution, fully approving the political report of the Party Central Committee presented by General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane.

The political report, the resolution says, sums up and gives a correct evaluation of the all-round situation and the actual socio-economic conditions of Laos at the present time, makes an analysis of the situation in the world and in Southeast Asia, makes an elaborate review of the party's leadership, draws precious lessons from the revolutionary work of Laos in the last ten years. Especially the political report lays stress on the question of renovating the economic management mechanism, thinking and style of work. The political report defines the principal socio-economic guidelines and tasks of the transitional period to socialism and set forth the foreign policy of the party and state. The political report also sets forth the guidelines for enhancing the party's leading role at the new stage of the revolution.

The principal content of the political work clearly reflects the creative application of Marxism-Leninism to the specific conditions of our country in the initial stage of the period of transition to socialism. The Fourth Party Congress entrusts the Party Central Committee with the task of leading and organizing the execution of the domestic and foreign policies mentioned in the political report.

The congress, the resolution says, fully approved of the report on the guidelines and tasks of the second Five-Year Plan of socio-economic development (1986-1990) presented by Nouhak Phoumsavanh, member of the Politburo of the Party Central Committee.

The congress gave full approval to draft amendments to the party statute presented by Sisomphon Lovansai, member of the Politburo of the Party Central Committee.

The congress warmly acclaimed the report on the work of the Party Central Committee, hird ongress. The report clearly demonstrates the spirit of self-criticism and criticism of revolutionaries. The congress commended the

sustained efforts of the Party Central Committee in leading and organizing the execution of the resolutions adopted by the Third Party Congress, especially the great contributions of General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane.

The congress, the resolution continues, called on the whole army and people to unite around the Party Central Committee, continue to bring into full play the revolutionary heroism and the spirit of self-reliance, strive to exploit and develop all potentialities of the country, and strengthen the special solidarity and all-round cooperation with Vietnam and Kampuchea, the close solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, and the solidarity and friendship with the revolutionary and peace forces in the world. It also called on the entire Lao people and army to march forward with enthusiasm to implement the resolution of the congress especially to carry out the guidelines and tasks of the second five-year plan with brilliant success thus creating the premises and necessary conditions for carrying out the tasks of the next stage of revolution, build the country ever stronger and make bigger contributions to strengthening the forces of the three Indochinese countries and of the socialist community as a whole and to the common struggle of the world's people for peace and social progress.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

LEADERS ATTEND EARTH RUN FOR PEACE MEETING

OW161812 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA, Nov. 16--A mass meeting was held at the workers' cultural palace here today to welcome the arrival of the first earth run for peace and future of children the world over and mark the 40th anniversary of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The meeting, sponsored by the Vietnam Committee for the International Year of Peace, was attended by 5,000 people of all walks of life.

Present at the meeting were Nguyen Huu Tho, vice-president of the State Council, chairman of the National Assembly and president of the Vietnam Committee for Young Pioneers and Children, Phan Anh, vice-president of the World Peace Council and chairman of the Vietnam Peace Committee; Tran Vi, mayor of Hanoi, and other Vietnamese senior officials.

Paul-Louis Audat, UNICEF's representative in Vietnam, and members of the diplomatic corps and international organizations in Vietnam also attended.

The meeting was opened right after torch for peace was carried to the palace from the office of the Hanoi Peace Committee by Vietnamese athletes through the city's main thoroughfares.

Speaking at the meeting, Chairman Phan Anh, on behalf of the Vietnamese Government and people, warmly welcomed the peace torch carried by messengers of peace to the Hanoi capital. He said that over the past months, diversified activities for peace had been held throughout the country. This "first earth run", he noted, will be another important activity, demonstrating the Vietnamese people's will and aspiration for peace.

"Having fallen victim of several wars of foreign aggression", the Vietnamese official stressed, "more than anyone else, the Vietnamese people fully realize and treasure the value of peace, and want to live in peace so as to reconstruct their country. Therefore, they spare no efforts to promote dialogue and cooperation with other peoples in the region and the world as a whole to solve the imperative problems, meeting the [words indistinct] peace".

For his part, Paul-Louis Audat stressed the world-wide importance of the run.

Taking the floor, the representative of the "earth run" team, Louis McDonald, highly appreciated the Vietnamese Government and people for their participation in the function, which, he said, is a symbol of the ardent love for peace of the Vietnamese people and children.

Concluding the meeting, Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho and other Vietnamese officials, and foreign guests put their signatures on the flag of peace, expressing their support for the common struggle of the whole progressive mankind.

Then Australian marathoner Bernard Barwel, an Olympic gold medal winner, together with Duong Duc Thuy, Vietnam's marathon champion, and other Hanoi athletes carried the torch for peace through many streets in the capital to the office of UNICEF in Vietnam and to the Hanoi children's cultural palace.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VIETNAM

CEREMONY TO RECEIVE CSSR LOCOMOTIVES HELD IN HANOI

BK171106 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Implementing the program of economic and technical cooperation between Vietnam and Czechoslovakia, the Czechoslovak party and state have decided to furnish the railway sector of our country with 70 diesel locomotives, each with 1,000 to 1,360 horse-power, between now and 1990 to help the sector increase its transport capacity and gradually replace those old and backward steam locomotives.

The first 10 DRV-736 locomotives, each with 1,000 horsepower, arrived in Vietnam from Czechoslovakia in May. With the wholehearted assistance of Czechoslovak experts, to date all 10 have been put into operation on the Thong Nhat railroad, between Danang and Vinh stations.

Some of these locomotives already have up to 15,000 km on them. In actual operation, they are basically suitable to the technical design and 1-meter gauge of railroads in our country. On this basis, the railway general department has conducted an 800-km test run of one of these locomotives from Danang to Hanoi.

Yesterday evening, 15 November, the Thong Nhat-2 train, pulled by a Czechoslovak locomotive, arrived in Hanoi at 1400 sharp, amid a ceremony held by the railway general department to receive all 10 Czechoslovak locomotives. Attending the ceremony were (Tran Van Lu), vice minister of communications and transportation; Nguyen Van Tu, director of the railway general department; Bouslav Handl, Czechoslovak ambassador to Vietnam, and his wife; the vice consul and commercial attache to the CSSR embassy; representatives of the (CKD) Corporation, manufacturer of the Czechoslovak locomotives, and (Pravo Intech) union; and those Czechoslovak experts and Vietnamese cadres and workers who have experience with these locomotives in the recent past.

Speaking at the ceremony, the comrade director of the railway general department sincerely thanked the party, state, people, and production units of Czechoslovakia for having speeded up the manufacturing of diesel locomotives applicable to the 1-meter gauge to satisfy the demand of Vietnam, as well as for sending specialists with experience to assist in the operation and

use of these locomotives. He also expressed the hope that the remaining number of diesel locomotives will be handed over to Vietnam on schedule to help increase its railway transport capacity.

In this speech, Czechoslovak Ambassador Bohuslav Handl highlighted the relationship that is developing increasingly in every aspect between Czechoslovakia and Vietnam. He said: the party, state, and people of Czechoslovakia always stand by the side of the Vietnamese people in their struggle for national construction. The arrival in Vietnam of the first 10 Czechoslovak diesel locomotives is a small gift from the party, state, and people of Czechoslovakia to the Vietnamese people on the occasion of the Sixth CPV Congress.

Comrade Bohuslav Handl also expressed the belief that cooperation between the parties, states, and peoples of the two countries will develop increasingly and wished the Sixth CPV Congress fine success.

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CSO: 4209/139

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

PDRY LEADERS CONGRATULATED--Hanoi VNA, Nov. 12--President of the State Council Trong Chinh today sent his congratulations to Haider Abu Baker al Attas on his re-election as president of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, while chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong congratulated Yasin Saeed Noman on his re-election as prime minister of the republic. Their messages wish the militant solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the two peoples further consolidation and development. Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach also sent congratulations to Abdul-Aziz al-Dali on his reappointment as foreign minister of the republic. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 12 Nov 86 OW]

FILM WEEK ON RUSSIAN REVOLUTION--Hanoi VNA, Nov. 12--A Soviet film week was opened here this evening by the Ministry of Culture in honour of the 69th anniversary of the Russian October Revolution. Present at the inauguration were Vu Khac Lien, vice minister of culture, and representatives of the Soviet Embassy. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 12 Nov 86 OW]

SNLF ANNIVERSARY MEETING HELD--Hanoi VNA, Nov. 12--A mass meeting was held here yesterday to mark the 25th anniversary of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (SNLF) of Nicaragua. The meeting, jointly sponsored by the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the Hanoi Party Committee, the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with other peoples and the Vietnam-Nicaragua Friendship Association was attended by representatives of public offices, mass organizations and the armed forces. Prominent on the presidium of the meeting were Chu Huy Man political bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and Tran Vi, Hanoi's mayor. After the opening speech by Chu Huy Man, Mayor Tran Vi delivered a speech, bringing out the important significance of the founding of the SNLF 25 years ago, which, he said, marked a decisive turning point in the history of Nicaragua and ushered in a new era for the Nicaraguan people's struggle, leading the Nicaraguan revolution to the total victory on July 19, 1979. Tran Vi highlighted the Nicaraguan people's efforts in national construction and condemned the U.S. hostile policy toward Nicaragua. He praised the militant solidarity and friendship between the Vietnamese and Nicaraguan peoples and reaffirmed Vietnam's full support for and solidarity with the Nicaraguan brothers. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0703 GMT 12 Nov 86 OW]

UN ENVOY CONVEYS MESSAGE--Hanoi VNA, Nov. 14--At the request of the Kampuchean Government, Ambassador Bui Xuan Nhat, acting head of the Vietnam Permanent Mission to the U.N., has conveyed to U.N. Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar a Nov. 5 message of Kampuchean premier and foreign minister Hun Sen, protesting against Thailand's attack and occupation of Kampuchea's Hill 537. The ambassador informed the secretary general of the serious situation caused by the Thai authorities. He highlighted the Kampuchean people's determination to firmly defend their sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the Kampuchean Government's readiness to meet the Thai side to solve all issues raised in the message. For his part, Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar expressed his sympathy with the concern of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and his wish that the two concerned parties refrain to avoid tense confrontation. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0707 GMT 14 Nov 86 OW]

UN CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID--Hanoi VNA, Nov. 14--Vietnam has co-sponsored six UN resolutions on economic sanction measures against the Pretoria authorities. Speaking at a United Nations debate on Nov. 7, Nguyen Binh Thanh, Vietnamese representative to the UN, condemned the Pretoria regime for its terrorism against the South African people and its illegal occupation of Namibia and attacks on other neighbouring countries. The Vietnamese representatives flayed the Reagan administration and other western forces's collaboration with Pretoria, which has encouraged the apartheid regime to step up its acts of aggression against its neighbours, challenging the UN's objective. After stressing that more effective support and assistance should be given to the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and other frontline countries in Africa, she called upon all states and international organizations to end their economic, political and scientific relations with South Africa, and demanded that Pretoria release immediately Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners. Nguyen Binh Thanh voiced Vietnam's firm conviction that the just cause of the southern African peoples including the Namibians will come to success. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT 14 Nov 86 OW]

RECEPTION MARKS BELGIUM'S NATIONAL DAY--Hanoi VNA, Nov. 15--Belgian Charge d'Affaires A.I. to Vietnam S. Robiano gave a reception here today on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Belgium. Among his guests were Minister of Foreign Trade Doan Duy Thanh, Nguyen Duy Mien, assistant to the foreign ministers; and others. In their toasts, S. Robiano and Doan Duy Thanh wished the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries further development. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 15 Nov 86 OW]

CEREMONY CELEBRATES 56TH ANNIVERSARY--Hanoi VNA, Nov. 16--A ceremony was held here today to mark the 56th founding anniversary of the Vietnam National United Front (VNUF). Present at the action were Hoang Quoc Viet, honorary president of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front (VFF); Huynh Tan Phat, president of the VFF presidium; Nguyen Thanh Binh, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and of the Hanoi Party Committee; Tran Vi, mayor of Hanoi, and others. Prof. Phan Khac Quang, president of the Hanoi Fatherland Front Committee, delivered a speech recalling the tradition of solidarity and revolutionary struggle of the United Front over the past 56 years. He stressed that to mark this glorious anniversary, the working class, collective peasants, intellectuals, and people of other social strata will accelerate their labour emulation movement to fulfill the 1986 state plan to welcome the coming party congress. Yesterday, the Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Vietnamese Catholics held a get-together in honour of the anniversary. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 16 Nov 86 OW]

CPV OFFICIAL VISITS MONGOLIA--At the invitation of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, our party Central Committee appointed Comrade (Pham Uy), deputy chief of the International Propaganda Section of the Propaganda and Training Department, to visit Mongolia from 21 to 29 October to report on work in preparation for the Sixth CPV Congress. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Nov 86 BK] /9738

GREETINGS TO SOVIET AMITY GROUP--On the occasion of the 69th anniversary of the October Revolution, the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with the peoples of other countries and the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association have sent a message of greetings to the Union of Associations for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries of the USSR and the Soviet-Vietnam Friendship Association. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Nov 86 BK] /9738

CSO: 4209/139

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

PUBLIC CRITICISM OF STATE ORGANS REVIEWED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 9 Sep 86 pp 1-2

[Article: "Summary of Views Contributed to the Party Congress on the Administrative, Organizational, and Operational Apparatuses": passages within slantlines in italics]

[Text] /In the letter box designed to collect views to be contributed to the Party Congress, the number of letters from readers expressing their opinions on the administrative, organizational, and operational apparatuses represents a noteworthy percentage (249 letters received by 20 August 1986). The following is a summary of the main topics discussed in these letters/.

Reorganization of Apparatuses

Concerning the present management apparatus at all levels, the readers' letters generally concentrated on pointing out its /cumbersomeness and ineffectiveness/. Phan Vinh Ba, a reader residing at 6/9 Dien Hong Street, 1st Subward, Binh Thanh, wrote: "The structure of ministries, departments, institutes, committees, and sectors from high to low echelons encompasses so many layers and echelons that it has become frightfully cumbersome." Tran Khuong, a reader residing at 186 Nguyen Thai Binh Street, 1st Precinct, said in his letter: "The apparatuses of our minicipal sectors at all echelons are cumbersome and heavy and belong to many committees and sectors but their functions and duties are not clearly defined so that they can hardly do their jobs." Le Van Dai, a retired cadre residing at 7A Nguyen Tat Thanh Street, 4th Precinct, said in his letter: "Cumbersomeness and heaviness are caused not only by the increasing number of organs and units of various kinds but also by the fact that their tasks overlap and encroach on one another and that their personnel organization is unwieldy. The state machinery is too clumsy and heavy, uses too many indirect employees, and involves many intermediary echelons." Tran Khuong wrote: "During my visits to many agencies and units, I usually saw people doing nothing but talking to one another for hours." Tran Van Thanh, a reader residing at 233 Tran Quang Vinh, Binh Thanh, said in his letter: Worse still, in this cumbersome apparatus, "there still are places for conservative, vainglorious, bureaucratic, authoritarian, and corrupt elements who have contributed to making the social situation more complex and to diminishing the people's confidence in the party and state."

Many readers spoke about the centrally-run organs stationed in the city. Bui Tuan Duc, a reader residing at 14 Truong Dinh Street, 3d Precinct, wrote: "All centrally-run organs have their bases in Ho Chi Minh City. Many of these bases have only the administrative function of managing cadres coming from the central level to this city to carry out tasks. This is wastefulness."

Ngoc Danh of the 11th Subward, 3d Precinct, wrote: "During their expansion, the agencies which take up permanent residence in the city have created very heavy and bulky apparatuses with an increasing number of employees and cadres who have thus been turned into an intermediary echelon. This situation must be remedied."

All the things that make the machinery cumbersome must be rearranged and streamlined. Reader Bui Thi Yen of 78 Pham Dinh Ho Street, 6th Precinct, wrote: "The time has come for us to think about the existence--the reasonable limit of existence--of bureaus and organs which belong to various ministries and centrally run committees and sectors and which have been permanently established in our locality." Reader Nguyen Van Thanh of 38 Dien Hong Street, 1st Subward, Binh Thanh, proposed that "only the essential (extremely important) agencies should remain while those deemed unnecessary should be dissolved quickly."

Many other letters mentioned the need to dissolve unnecessary organs and units. In his letter, reader Tra Van Linh, a cadre residing at 42/14 Hoang Hoa Tham Street, 7th Subward, Binh Thanh, proposed a reduction in the number of ministries in the Council of Ministers because it is now too large. A proposal to eliminate intermediary corporations or units was made in the letters written by readers such as Kim Luc of 32J Nguyen Thien Thuat Housing Compound; Pham Duc Du of 557A Nguyen Tri Phuong Street, 10th Precinct; and Tran Kim Chung of 20 Phu Huu Street, 5th Precinct. Thai Hoang Chau of the industrial processing enterprise in the 5th Precinct proposed the dissolution of nonessential organs. Le Hien Thanh, a reader working with the public security force in the 6th Precinct, proposed a reduction in the number of district-level corporations as well as the elimination of units which carry out commercial activities inconsistent with their true functions.

Addressing the personnel problem, many readers--such as Hoang Nghia of the Industrial Service--said it is necessary to reduce the staff of the state machinery at all levels. Phan Ky Linh of the Advanced School of People's Security No 2 suggested that personnel reduction be considered an urgent task to be carried out to a reasonable extent. The letter written by Danh Cu, a reader residing in the 3 Subward, 8th Precinct, also mentioned the need to expand production to attract the surplus labor resulting from streamlining the personnel in indirectly operational sectors.

When speaking of an apparatus, one must naturally deal with its systematic character and with the necessity of arranging and strengthening it altogether and uniformly. In his letter, reader Doan Van Bay of the municipal Farming Machine Corporation, wrote: "Actually, production installations cannot on their own take the initiative even if they want to because they are

dependent in a large measure and mainly on management organs... If the right to take the initiative is to be given to production installations, there must be a new organizational mechanism extending from the central to the local level. First and foremost, it is especially important to employ a new, suitable kind of men with an innovative spirit."

Tran Bach Ho, a reader from Can Tho, wrote in his letter: "I find it is high time (though too late) to change the organization of the state machinery at all levels. We must change the obsolete organizational and operational method which has proven too complicated and formalistic."

Strengthen Management through Law Enforcement

The readers pointed out that the law has not yet been respected and suggested that it should be enforced strictly.

In fact, Nguyen Huu Danh, a reader residing at 227 Dien Bien Phu Street, 3d Precinct, wrote: "There were instances when laws and regulations were promulgated and propagandized among the people so that everyone might become aware of them and study them but these laws and regulations were afterward implemented incorrectly and contradictorily." Therefore, the people no longer place confidence in the administration and in the cadres responsible for implementing the law and, as an indirect consequence, no longer trust the party leadership. Even within state organs, the law has not been implemented strictly and, as revealed by Nguyen Van Tue, a reader residing at 16/45/39 Ky Dong Street, 3d Precinct, "many cadres were forced to quit their jobs but their cases were not examined and approved by the Disciplinary Council."

Disrespect for the law is illustrated most clearly by the fact that the /judgments which have been passed by courts of justice and which should have come into effect have not yet been executed/ as pointed out in the letter written by Dinh Thi Nu, a reader who works in the municipal People's Court. The author of this letter also said frankly that "in Ho Chi Minh City, each month there are hundreds of people's complaints about the failure to implement the law rigorously, especially in disputes arising from the landlords' attempt to take back their rented houses and that state agencies, including local party committees at various echelons, have sometimes hampered the execution of court judgments."

The reasons for the disregard for law were also discussed in some letters. First, many readers agreed with Mr Phan Dang Thanh that the principal reason is the fact that the law has not yet been formulated adequately, that there still remain many regulations designed to serve the bureaucratic mechanism, that many legal documents in force among local sectors at various echelons are not uniform and, worse still, have a mutually overlapping, contradictory, and nullifying effect--not to mention the fact that "verbal laws" have been issued in some installations. Mr Tran Binh Giang of the municipal School of Inspection Cadres wrote in his letter that parochialism, particularism, and localism have made the uniform socialist

legislation ineffective or commonplace and have directed it toward "the king's ruling has to yield to the village's custom" orbit.

The letter from Mr Do Xoay of the Judicial Bureau in Phu Nhuan said: "There were instances when some leading cadres in party committees at various echelons and in the judiciary sector paid little attention to doing their jobs in accordance with the Constitution and law. Therefore, they frequently took only internal administrative measures to deal with serious violations and offered plenty of arguments to justify this course of action."

Disregard for the law has led to a situation where some cadres /misused the law/ and, worse still, believed they had the right to /stand above the law/. Following the newspapers' disclosure of a number of negative practices, Dang Khoa, a reader from Binh Thanh, wrote in his letter: "It appears from these cases that the socialist law has been seriously infringed, that socialist dictatorship has been disregarded, and that social order has become lax. Therefore, some cadres who hold a high position and are empowered to wield the state law believe they have the right to violate the law."

Disrespect for the law will lead to violations of democratic rights, the letter from Le Quynh Anh of Tan Thoi Nhat Village, Hoc Mon District, said.

Nguyen Trung Kien, a reader from the 9th Subward, 3d Precinct, wrote: "The sound policies and lines of the party have not yet been strictly implemented by the party and administration organs and by other organizations at all levels. Laxity has sometimes been noticed in certain areas. Especially, the violation and misuse of law and social order and discipline have resulted in serious infringements of the laborers' right of collective ownership."

In view of this situation, many readers proposed that management be strengthened by law and that the law be strictly executed (letters from Tran Van Hanh of 233 Tran Quang Vinh Street, Binh Thanh; Trung Quang Minh of the 5th Precinct; Nguyen Thi Kim Hoa of 480 So Viet Nghe Tinh Street, 3d Precinct; Du Thuc Lien of the Paint and Plastic Corporation; Nguyen Kim Sang of the Advanced School of Banking; Nguyen Minh Tuan of the Jurisprudence School; and Le Canh Dai of the University). Because the society already has its law, violations of human rights and economic regulations must be prosecuted with severity (letter from Thai Son, a reader residing in Phu Nhuan). It is necessary to implement thoroughly the Code of Criminal Law to prevent and oppose crimes (letter from Nguyen Minh Tuan of the Jurisprudence School).

In executing the law, state organs must seriously carry out the decisions made by themselves (letters from Nguyen Thi Kim Hoa). "It is necessary to emphasize the legality of state law... All individuals and organizations which violate the law must be prosecuted immediately and sternly (letter from Mr Tran Van Thanh).

"Justice must be done in giving rewards and meting out punishments. Past achievements must not be used as a pretext to condone present misdeeds.

During this new revolutionary stage, anyone who violates systems and policies, and undermines the party and state prestige must be considered to have betrayed the revolutionary ideal and must be dealt with appropriately" (letter from Mr Vu Hai Binh of the Vinh Factory).

"Rain water always leaks from the house roof to the ground floor. Therefore, if the law is to be strictly executed by everyone, it must first be implemented by the high echelon" (letter from Mr Quang Minh of the 5th Precinct).

Increase Uniformity and Thoroughness in Guiding Task Performance

Concerning the implementation of party and state policies, the readers' letters referred to the /incorrect, nonuniform, and incomplete implementation/ of these policies and even the /failure to implement/ them.

Nguyen Trung Kien, a reader from the 9th Subward, 3d Precinct, wrote: "The correct policies and lines of the party have not yet been thoroughly implemented by party organs, the administration, and other organizations at all levels. Laxity has sometimes been shown in certain areas..." Mr Phan Van Veo of the Tan Huong Food Processing Enterprise wrote in his letter: "The lines and policies set forth by the party are sound but when their management and implementation are entrusted to the administration, errors have been made. Most noteworthy is the fact that each cadre and party member have failed to implement these lines and policies thoroughly and that each locality has acted differently from the policy provisions."

"There are too many administrative measures. The various localities, committees, and sectors may want to take administrative measures when they have to accomplish some mission. But if too many administrative measures are implemented and if proposals are not made to the higher level to turn them into common law, they will create disorder... Finally, this shower of administrative measures will fall on the shoulders of executives and subordinates and will have a bad effect" (letter from Nguyen The Xuong, a reader residing in the 25th Subward, Tan Binh).

"At present, the organizational and disciplinary spirit is very low in certain sectors and localities. In addition to the habit of doing things at one's own convenience, parochialism and cliquishness have led to incomplete execution of party policies and lines. The habit of acting at one's convenience has led to unilateral organization of apparatuses, unilateral creation of control stations, and unilateral price hike" (letter from Nguyen Tan Loi, a reader domiciled in the 17th Subward, Go Vap).

"Many decisions and directives have been disseminated by the radio station and the press but have not yet been carried out though several years and months have gone by" (letter from reader Tran Can Thach of the 5th Subward, 10th Precinct).

"The fact that many decisions have been promulgated but have not been carried out in an organized and thorough manner has engendered a psychology

characterized by disregard for the decisions made by the high echelon. Here is a specific example: The request made by a certain basic unit was not answered by the boards and sectors concerned. The [people's] committee then issued a decision asking these boards and sectors to help solve this problem but these boards and sectors again refused to do so. Finally, the basic unit had to grin and bear it" (letter from reader Le Phu Loc of 49/121 Dinh Tien Hoang Street, Binh Thanh).

Such a situation has limited the effectiveness of the apparatus activities and "eroded" the mass confidence (letter from Mr Bui Huy Sat of 73 Cao Thang Street, 3d Precinct).

Therefore, many readers proposed that stern measures be taken to ensure uniform management and uniform and thorough implementation of party-state policies and lines (letter from Mrs Cao Thi Lien of the Trung Vuong Hospital).

Concerning organization and implementation, Nguyen Kim Hai, a reader from Song Be, wrote: "It is most important to implement a statute for economic management organs and state agencies." Therefore, "it is necessary to review documents and regulations, to annul those which are outdated and inconsistent with intensive economic development and which hinder production, and to make this move known to the entire people" (letter from Mr Nguyen Hoai Bac of the 6th Precinct).

Update Working Manners and Methods

In their letters, many readers contributed views on the need to update the present working manners, methods, and styles. At first, bureaucratic manners and /formalistic and redtapist/ working methods must be criticized.

In his letter, Mr Vo Van Thanh of 9 Mac Dinh Chi Street, 1st Precinct, described the apparatus' "operation" and the working method of some localities as follows: People at the /high echelon/ stick to their desks, rely on the usually inaccurate and untruthful reports submitted by people at the low echelon, and convene the latter to many meetings to disseminate resolutions, directives, circulars, and so on. On their part, people at the /low echelon/ have to cling to their desks to read all the resolutions, directives, and circulars received from the high echelon and also to write up and finish their own reports on schedule (by making up any kind of story because the high echelon does not keep abreast of the situation); the low echelon people have also to organize many meetings to disseminate all these resolutions, directives, and circulars of the high echelon; therefore, they can spare no time to visit the grassroots and can only sit at their desks though they are merely subordinates in a grassroots unit.

Because of the hindrance created by such redtapism, it is sometimes impossible to avoid formalism in conducting affairs. For example, to receive the people and resolve their complaints and denunciations, "some localities organized this task perfunctorily by assigning an irresponsible office employee to receive the people, to enter their petitions and

denunciations on a book or to jot down a few words on these papers, and to transmit them to other agencies. Afterward, these localities considered their duties fulfilled" (letter from Nguyen Khuong, a reader residing in the 10th Precinct).

Almost linked to formalism are /sluggishness and irresponsibility/. Party policies have been materialized slowly (letter from Nguyen Van Chung of the Southern Rubber Industry Corporation). The policies and resolutions issued by the CPV congresses, CPV Central Committee plenums, and CPV Central Committee Secretariat have a general character but have been slowly materialized and lack the necessary details suitable for each locality during each stage (letter from Mr Nguyen Dinh Tran of 31/1 Nguyen Du Street, Phuoc Long Village, Thu Duc). Generally speaking, "our present working manners and style are complicated, sluggish, too slow, and unscientific" (letter from Mr Pham Thanh Hai of the 10th Precinct) and this is a frightful force which has rendered the administrative apparatus ineffective" (letter from reader Bui Huy Sat).

Many letters referred to the circuitous and nonchalant method of resolving negative cases and people's complaints and denunciations.

"There still are instances when petitions wander around from one agency to another, when some cases are not yet resolved after 3 or 4 years, and when retaliatory measures are taken against petitioners" (Letter from Mr Nguyen Van Tue of Ky Dong Street).

In view of this situation, many readers suggested that the working manners and style should be updated in order to become effective. Tran Bach Ho, a reader from Can Tho, suggested the "need to change the too intricate and formalistic organizational and operational method which has become obsolete." Lengthy meetings which prove unnecessary must be reduced (letters from readers Le Chi Trung of My Tho and Vo Van Thanh of 9 Mac Dinh Chi Street, 1st Precinct). The "speak less, work more" motto must be applied (Le Chi Trung of My Tho). "Words must be followed by deeds" and "one must not speak about a lot of things but do only one of them" (letter from Qui Nhon, a reader residing in Tan Quy, Nha Be).

"Whenever the party and state issue a directive or resolution, it is necessary to exercise constant control and supervision, to disseminate it with clear and specific explanations to make everyone understand it thoroughly, to conduct a careful study before setting forth measures to enable all echelons to implement the directive or resolution scientifically and rationally, and to carry out control in a realistic manner to prevent the recurrence of 'false reports' which are now prevalent. It is necessary to update our apparatuses and working manners really completely to make them truly scientific and effective" (letters from Mr Pham Thanh Hai of the 10th Precinct).

"A specific task and duty must be assigned to each cadre instead of allowing him to hold several functions and do several jobs by himself at the same time. He must assume responsibility for the job done by himself and must

begin by tackling any task of first priority. When doing something, he must finish it off instead of letting it 'peter out'" (letter from Mr. Tran Bach Ho of Can Tho).

In the readers' opinion, this means that updating the working style is correlated with organizing the apparatus. Reader Truong Dinh Tri wrote from the Pham Van Hai state farm: "Vague delimitation between the functions and duties of various organs and units will lead to mutual encroachments and overlappings during the performance of tasks. Whenever a job is done, every ministry or service will claim that it is its own achievement but whenever some violation is committed, they will lay the blame on one another.

Need To Intensify Control

In their letters, 12 readers contributed views on the control task. Thuc Lan, a reader from the 1st Precinct, suggested that the position and role of the inspection sector be properly redefined. Le Thi Tam, a reader residing in the 17th Subward, 3d Precinct, said in her letter that it is necessary to change the inspection method and that inspections must not be carried out in a deceptive and formalistic manner. Nguyen Thanh Thai, a reader who works in the Communications and Transport Service, said in his letter that control must always be exercised and corrective measures taken continuously. The letter from Hoang Dieu, a reader in the 14th Subward, 1st Precinct, proposed that inspections be regularly carried out to ensure compliance with the law and to purify the corps of cadres. Hoang Ngoc Trang, a reader domiciled in the 3d Precinct, suggested in his letter that a system of periodic and yearly inspections be promulgated to ensure "implementation of the system of state management of property, materials, and so on." The letter from Mr. Do Dung, a resident of the 11th Subward, 5th Precinct, dealt with the need to create a network of inspection teams to carry out activities evenly everywhere to detect good and bad practices at the primary level.

All these readers' proposals aimed at intensifying inspections and seemed to be inspired by an assessment of the situation and by the finding that control and inspection are slack, superficial, and formalistic.

In addition to the letters expressing views on the administrative, organizational, and operational apparatuses--views which focused on state management organs and which have been summarized in the above chapters--a noteworthy number of readers' letters voiced their opinions about the same problems regarding some specific sectors. We will summarize these opinions later on.

9332/9190

CSO: 4209/76

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

READERS DISCUSS REVITALIZING CADRE RANKS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 18 Sep 86 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "Integration of Letters To Contribute Ideas to the Party Congress Column: Revitalize the Cadres; Expel Degraded and Degenerate Cadres; Revitalize the Cadres in Accord with the New Revolutionary Stage and the Movement To Make Innovations in the Management Mechanism; Use, Employ, and Promote Cadres; Train the Ranks of Cadres Who Will Take Over Later"]

[Text] Besides the letters on the quality, capabilities, and work behavior of a number of specific cadres that we are sending to the agencies concerned so that they can examine and handle matters, Contribute Ideas to the Party Congress column has received a rather large number of letters from readers who have contributed ideas concerning the cadre problem. By the beginning of September, the column had received 449 letters on the cadre problem, which is 29 percent of all the letters received. Most of these letters discussed revitalizing the cadres. In this article, we have integrated and excerpted readers' ideas.

Expel Degraded and Degenerate Cadres

Many letters mentioned the decline in quality of a number of cadres and party members. Vo Van wrote: "For more than 10 years now, many party members and cadres have worked for the country and people sincerely and zealously. But there have also been a rather large number of passive elements who have been afflicted with the disease of self-conceit." Nguyen Thi Van, from the Chemicals General Department, wrote that the "quality of a number of party members is worse than that of the masses, but these people are still in the party. They are damaging the reputation of the party." This decline in quality is manifested in such things as berating and oppressing the masses, engaging in corruption, taking bribes, and acting in an arrogant and authoritarian manner. In their letters, readers mentioned all of these things. "Many cadres and party members have used their powers to oppress the masses. In the agencies, they form cliques and find fault with and attack those who are not in their clique" (Pham Xuan Sang, Subward 25, Tan Binh Ward). "Our society cannot accept leading cadres who live "above" the people instead of living with them (Nguyen Huu Ta, Ho Chi Minh City Youth Union).

In discussing the things that have led to this state of affairs, people are common problems, such as the bureaucratic centralism and state planning mechanism and loose internal control, many letters analyzed the effect of individualism. Nguyen Tran Quynh in Subprecinct 7, Precinct 1, wrote: "After decades of war and hardships, everyone wants a more comfortable life. That is a legitimate desire. But the problem is limiting individual desires. If we allow individualism to grow and everyone is 'sympathetic' to this, we will drag each other into the mud of mediocrity. Our lives will be without ideals." Tran Any in Binh Thuan said that the "growth of individual hedonism has led some cadres to engage in illegal activities. As a result, they must conceal things using a beautiful outer appearance. They must constantly worry about being exposed. They have to use sophistic arguments to conceal their activities. At the same time, they must be clever at flattering others and frequently give gifts in order to please their superiors and create a protective 'umbrella.' They must deal harshly with those who are not in cahoots with them and who are not opportunists like them."

In very harsh words, almost all the letters said that these degenerate and degraded cadres and party members should be expelled from the ranks immediately. Many readers said that this has not been done resolutely: "The organizations do not have suitable forms of discipline for a number of cadres who have committed economic crimes" (Nguyen Hoang Viet, Subprecinct 10, Precinct 8). "The party has not resolutely punished cadres and party members whom the masses have caught making mistakes. This has shaken the confidence of the masses and made them more passive. There are even places that have not reviewed the cadres and party members but that have examined the struggle motives of the masses" (Phan Dang Tho).

"Today, a number of negative cases have not been handled promptly. Is this the result of intentional delays on the part of the people responsible at these places? Or do these people have protective 'umbrellas?'" (Ta Thanh) "Is our party leaning to the right in enforcing party discipline with respect to party members in whom the people have lost confidence?" (Nguyen Thi Kim Van, Precinct 3)

Nguyen Hoang An in An Nhon Tay, Cu Chi, listed the negative cases that have appeared in the press and asked why we haven't taken resolute action. Answering this, Ta Thanh wrote: "I have an observation to make about the cases that have appeared in the press. A number of these cases were quite sensational and attracted the attention of everyone when they first appeared. But now things are dying down and being glossed over even though the cadres, party members, and masses are waiting for these people to be tried fairly in accord with the law." "The degraded and degenerate cadres must be purged immediately. This must be done resolutely and systematically from top to bottom" (Nguyen Hong Minh, University).

In handling cases and disciplining people, "internal prosecutions" must be avoided. In the past, there have been many "cases of people being transferred and promoted" (Vu Hai Binh, VIKINO Plant). "There have been cases in which people have been prosecuted at one agency and then transferred to another

agency where they have the same position and powers as before. And so they continue to damage socialist property and influence the confidence of the cadres and personnel" (Do Hung, Phu Nhuan Statistics Office).

Attention must also be given to the "umbrella" situation in prosecuting people. "Comrades have built protective umbrellas, used their personal prestige to conceal mistakes, and encouraged others to live without credentials or morals." "Whenever someone covers up for a bad element, it means that good people are ill-treated and prosecuted unjustly" (Nguyen Van Hoa). "Let's not be afraid to stir up things. If necessary, we can put down a few trees to which they are clinging too tightly" (Tran Anh, Binh Thanh).

"In cadre work, the party's policy of kindness should not be used to handle the criminal violations and loss of quality" (Nguyen Thien, Vi Xuat, Nguyen Ai Quoc School 2). "The degenerate and degraded cadres must be purged immediately. It isn't necessary to wait until the party congress. The results of the cases should be announced publicly. The cases should not be handled 'internally' (Le Duy Ly, Precinct 1). "The party must take resolute action to clear up things. The higher the cadres, the more harshly they should be punished. Otherwise, it will not be possible to be strict with lower echelons" (Lam Quang, Subprecinct 5, Precinct 11).

Many readers mentioned that opposition to negative aspects within must be linked to the struggle to make innovations in the socioeconomic management mechanism, make changes in organization, and solve the wage problem.

Revitalize the Cadres in Accord with the New Revolutionary Stage and in Accord with the Movement To Make Innovations in the Management Mechanism

Many readers said that moving from the national democratic revolution to the socialist revolution and from centralized management characterized by bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies to socialist economic accounting requires that we revitalize the ranks of cadres at all echelons. The "excellent representatives" of the old mechanism must be replaced. Readers also mentioned the technical and professional standards and the leadership and management capabilities of the cadres. Duy Tan (Tang Nhon Phu, Thu Duc) and Hai Hien (Subprecinct 6, Precinct 1) mentioned the fact that "there are people who no longer have adequate capabilities and standards but who do not want to give up their positions to other people. They are blocking the advance of society."

Doang Nguyen Minh (Subprecinct 16, Precinct 5) said that "most leading cadres have a small-scale production background and so they use the views, ways of thinking, and habits of small-scale production in leading and guiding things. Many cadres who are infected with conservatism, bureaucratic centralism, and state subsidies thinking and who are "excellent representatives" of the old mechanism have become a hindrance to this revitalization movement. They must be replaced."

"The tasks of the socialist revolution are very difficult. We must have a rank of new cadres (in terms of understanding, standards, behavior, and actions) and have the strength to bear the difficulties. Those who cannot do the work

(because of lack of talent or poor health, including those at the central echelon) should voluntarily give up their positions to others who are more worthy in accord with the truth the 'young succeed the old.' That is the way to show that they love the country and people and know how to place the interests of the masses above personal interests" (Phan Trong Hien, Binh Thanh).

The letters also showed the urgency of revitalizing the cadres. The following statement by Nguyen Dang Trung reflects the mood of many people: "No one can feel at ease when people who follow the slogan 'better to die than to change' are being entrusted with heavy responsibilities in implementing the party's revitalization program." Xuan Quang (Subprecinct 15, Precinct 11) stated that cadres at every echelon must be revitalized in accord with the movement to make innovations in management. "Change does not begin from below only. It must also begin from central agencies if there are to be good results."

Using, Assigning, and Promoting Cadres

Bay Kham (Precinct 3) mentioned the need to use "economic accounting" with the ranks of cadres. "For decades now, we have not calculated the 'effects' of the ranks of cadres. In the past, we did not need to, because in the resistance, combat practices did that for us. In building socialism, we have carried on activities based on the system of bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies--the state shares the profits, compensates the losses. But we have never kept records to see how many cadres have made profits for the state and how many cadres have made mistakes for which the state has had to bear responsibility. Which group is larger?"

In assigning cadres, "party members cannot be considered as gods who can lead any sector and who are responsible to one agency or another. Just because they finish a number of "tasks" and obediently implement the ideas of higher echelons doesn't mean that they can be considered to be cadres who have completed the tasks required by society there" (Nguyen Tan Nghiem, Tan Binh Ward Project Management Board). As for using cadres, readers said that the cadres are not being used properly and that this is causing waste. "After receiving training (both here and abroad), many cadres are assigned the wrong work. They are given tasks that do not exploit their training. For example, textile workers who have studied abroad for 5 years are put in the commercial sector and used as sales clerks" (Nguyen Hoang Viet, Subprecinct 12, Precinct 8). "Our country now has many scientific and technical cadres, but many of these cadres are not being used in the right field. As a result, their talents haven't been exploited" (Nguyen Dang Diep, Food Industry Department).

Nguyen Thi Thanh Phong discussed cadre work during the past period: "In my view, cadre organization is always a leading task. But in the past period, we have not carried out this work well. We have not gone into things deeply or listened to the opinions of the masses. As a result, cadres have not been assigned in accord with the state's norms concerning moral qualifications and standards. In some places, through flattery, bribes, or nepotism, the people employed have lacked morals and talent." "When hiring people, most of the enterprises and agencies are still more concerned about finding blemishes in a person's past than they are in determining whether the person's standards and

skills are in accord with the job requirements. As a result, some of those hired work very slowly, and they slow down the growth of the organization. Some places that need people with specific technical skills hire only people who are "excellent political speakers" (Phung Nguyen, university student).

Nguyen Trung Thanh mentioned a reason for this. He said that "those engaged in organizational work lack general knowledge about the technical and vocational sectors. In many cases, the cadres who have poor technical capabilities and are cannot do technical work are transferred to organizational work. Unfortunately, these are staff agencies for the party committees in assigning cadres to the technical organizations. Thus, at a number of places, cadre work is carried out on the basis of emotion."

"I propose that cadres not be selected on the basis of emotion and the sentiment 'when one lives long enough, one gets to be a village elder'" (Huynh Kuan Huong, Subprecinct 17, Precinct 11). "Cadres must be selected like stage performers--when the audience becomes bored, it's time to retire" (Bay Nam).

"Young and talented cadres with scientific and technical standards who are familiar with their operations sector must be promoted to positions of leadership in the economic sectors" (Hoang Van Thang, 1st Report Enterprise, Southern Grain General Corporation). "The technical agencies must put cadres with specific technical standards in charge. Only in this way will the system of chiefs be truly effective" (Nguyen Trung Thuc)

"In building and managing the economy, the arrangement of the management mechanism and ranks of cadres is decisive. We cannot build and manage the economy well using cadres who have only general political knowledge" (Ngo Van Ngo, Subprecinct 7, Precinct 1). Nguyen Van My (Municipal Unit Council) said that in employing and promoting cadres, "the matter of ability and the revolutionary process must be clarified. Those who can contribute much must be respected, and there must be supportive policies. We must stop assigning people tasks that they cannot complete. That just hinders younger and more progressive people who have more to contribute."

Many letters mentioned an important basis for employing and promoting cadres. That is, there must be cadre "standardization." "There must be job titles, and clear and specific job standards. Appointments must be based on general requirements in order to select personnel" (Nguyen Huu Hung, Institute of Economics and Rubber Technology). "Job standards, powers, responsibilities, duties, and rights must be set for leadership positions in units at all echelons" (Le Quang Truong, Lam Dong Provincial Labor Service). Diep Van Son (Precinct 3) said that "objective standards must be developed for evaluating leadership and management capabilities, and specific requirements must be developed for each position." In nominating cadres for promotion, "there must be quantitative parameters in order to reduce evaluating cadres based on the feelings of certain individuals."

"In cadre standardization, besides the requirements concerning political, technical, and educational standards and ethical qualities, we must also give attention to age. Sectors and echelons that have standardized the cadres must

resolutely put them to use and not show excessive consideration. Only, in this way will it be possible to meet the needs of the situation and encourage the cadres to study and think about improving the work" (Le Ha, Subprecinct 7, Precinct 1).

Readers also talked about the need to have a mechanism to exploit the capabilities of the cadres. Vo Ba Tho (Federation of Poultry Breeding Enterprises 1) said that "cadres hold many positions concurrently. But really, these are just positions in name only. Some people hold so many positions that they can't complete the work, with the result that much the work is not completed satisfactorily. This makes it difficult to evaluate these cadres." He said that "attention must be given to improving cadre organization in order to exploit the capabilities of the cadres and increase their sense of responsibility. Symbolic and concurrent positions must be eliminated, because such a situation leads to low quality and poor work results. If there is a shortage of cadres, younger cadres and people who are not party members can be promoted."

After reading the article "Skills To Build Vietnam," which appeared in the 8 August 1986 issue of SAIGON GIAI PHONG, Diep Van Son replied: "Were these skilled workers who were praised so highly in O Rang the same ones who participated in building the poor-quality projects that dot the country?" "What has led to this strange situation? Is it the mechanism?" These are questions that must be studied in order to exploit the capabilities of the laborers.

Train the Heirs

Training heirs is an important problem in cadre work. Many readers mentioned this.

Le Ha (Subprecinct 7, Precinct 1) wrote that "today, a number of older comrades who are in poor health are still shouldering many tasks. If the capabilities of the younger generation are not exploited and these people develop an inferiority complex and become passive, how can we have good heirs?" Phan Trong Hien (Binh Thanh) said that "in many places, training and promoting younger cadres is not based on the standards stipulated but on the feelings of higher echelons." It is no accident that many new "proverbs" have appeared recently. For example, "happiness is better than a diploma" and "intelligence from the mind, not from knowing the mind of higher echelons." "Selecting, training, and promoting people like this has caused damage on many social fronts and had a bad influence on the ideological and political education of the younger generation, the generation that will carry on the revolution of the older generation. Young people usually react quickly and can easily see the other side of society. If the party doesn't make corrections soon, they will choose the path best for them personally and "drift with the wind." If they "see something wrong, they will not take action to correct it. Nor will they support what is right." They will use glibness to support personal interests and selfishly strive to "rise," not by using their abilities and qualities but by taking the path of opportunists. If that happens, they will have a bad influence on the next generation."

"We must quickly create a new rank of cadres who have adequate capabilities and good moral qualities and who are not afraid to shoulder the tasks. Resolute, correct, and truly revolutionary policies and measures must be put forth" (Ha Xuan Thi, Binh Thanh).

We must resolutely lower the average age of the ranks of cadres at all echelons. We do not lack cadres. People with many talents have appeared in combat and production. The government has recognized these people as heroes, outstanding emulators, golden hands, and excellent workers. Thus, there is an abundant source of trustworthy cadres. They have been recognized as having technical standards. They are patriotic and love socialism. If they are weak in any way, they can be given additional training (Huynh Xuan Huong, Subprecinct 17, Precinct 1).

"Regularizing and lowering the age of the ranks of cadres is a continuous process of training and strengthening cadres who have adequate political quality for the staff of the party and state from the central echelon to the primary level. This must be done creatively and achieve results based on a unified line (Nguyen Huu Hung, Institute of Economics and Rubber Technology).

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

HANOI FATHERLAND FRONT CONVENES 1986 ELDERS CONFERENCE

OW180543 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Station correspondent's report]

[Text] On 16 November the Hanoi Fatherland Front Committee organized a solemn ceremony to mark the 56th founding anniversary of the Vietnam National United Front, 18 November, and convened the 1986 conference of elders in the capital at the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Cultural Palace.

Comrades Huynh Tan Phat, Hoang Quoc Viet, Nguyen Thanh Binh, Tran Vy, and Phan Khac Quang were present. The conference was attended by 500 delegates, including outstanding typical elders who have devoted almost all their lives to serving the revolution, the party, and the people and those comrades currently engaged in the fatherland front's work at all levels.

In his cordial address to the conference Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh, secretary of the Party Central Committee and the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee, stressed that our capital's elders have contributed great efforts to the implementation of community tasks, despite their old age and weak physical condition. As many as 210,000 of them are current partners of the fund of the aged and have joined various sectors and circles promoting the campaign to deposit money in savings accounts which has won six first national prizes.

Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh recalled the Vietnamese saying that children will come to our homes if we love them, whereas the aged will bestow money upon those who venerate them. The Hanoi Municipal Party Committee is currently guiding party organizations in developing this tradition and implementing the motto of venerating old folk so as to gain experience from them.

On this occasion the Hanoi Fatherland Front Committee awarded commendation certificates to old Mr Nguyen Van Hieu, former chairman of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee; old Mr Phan Khac Quang, chairman of the Hanoi Fatherland Front Committee; the chairmen of the fatherland front committees of Thanh Tri and Hoai Duc Districts and Son Tay City; and the vice chairmen of the fatherland front committees of Hoan Kiem Ward and Dong Anh District.

The Hanoi Fatherland Front Committee also commended the elders movement in Son Tay City, Me Linh and Dan Phuong Districts, Hoan Kiem and Ba Dinh Wards, and 16 villages and subwards of the capital city.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

REPORT ON PHAM VAN DONG'S UNIVERSITY SPEECH

BK210625 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Nov 86

["Introductory to main parts" of speech by Pham Van Dong, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers delivered during a working visit to Hanoi University on the occasion of its 30th founding anniversary--passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] "Dear comrade minister, dear comrade rector, dear comrades, I think this is an extremely good opportunity for me to come to work with the comrade rector and all the professors present at this meeting today. I am going to talk--to put it correctly, primarily to the university, but I think I will also avail myself of this opportunity to express my thoughts to all other colleges. First of all I feel it necessary to tell you, comrades, that our country must, in the immediate future as well as in the long term, have a network of colleges extending to all parts of the country. It must serve as a facility to train a contingent of men capable of great accomplishments.

"During the recent war of resistance, we scored an extremely great achievement--fighting for independence and freedom, defeating two large imperialist countries, and winning extremely glorious victories. Now, to fulfill the two great tasks, including the task of building socialism, comrades, we must have capable men--capable laborers, capable workers, capable technicians, capable engineers, and capable scientists. However, do we have a contingent of capable scientists? [audience reply heard in background: 'Not yet.'] Not yet. And do we have a contingent of capable scientists for our country's extremely important and essential sectors? [audience reply heard in background: 'Not yet.']

"I must say that together with some other colleges, the university must strive to do this work at all costs--turning out competent technical and professional cadres. There must be talented people in the fields of natural sciences, social sciences, general science, and technology. And the university must pay a great deal of attention to this."

Next, Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong spent a considerable amount of time giving much valuable advice to the university as well as to other colleges about what they must do in the period ahead to improve the

quality of their academic and scholastic work and their scientific research at a time when our country is still beset with numerous difficulties, particularly the shortages of material-technical bases and teaching aids needed by the various colleges. Here, the chairman particularly pointed out the need for colleges to link study and research work with productive labor and the social economy in all areas of activity. They must conduct academic, scholastic, and research activities in a practical manner.

The comrade also underlined the need to improve the quality of student selection—the first thing they must do to improve the quality of education. He said:

"As we must build socialism, we are struggling harder and harder against countless indications of depravity, malpractice, and backwardness to surge forward. That is why we need more talented people. These talented people do not come out of the blue. Instead, we must train them systematically. Here I would like to advise you—the comrades of the university, the polytechnical university, and other colleges—to try to devise effective regulations and measures for ensuring proper selection of students. This is to create conditions for the most intelligent among our children to further their schooling in the various colleges including this university, which is the most important training ground for producing the most capable people for tomorrow, for the day after tomorrow, and for the future. The selection of students is of extreme importance. In addition to the existing measures, I think that you, comrades, must work and think harder to develop effective regulations and measures to get this job done. In the immediate future, we must use what we have now—the forces of professors and students at this university and other colleges—to carry out academic work and scientific research simultaneously while contributing to socioeconomic construction.

"You, professors and students, must strive in such a way as to link your academic and scholastic work with productive labor and with the social economy. In so doing, we can kill two birds with one stone. Only by doing so can we ensure good academic and scholastic work and can we link school activities with socioeconomic activities, and from this can we make practical contributions and come to realize what our country, our economy, and our society now really need and what we have to do. This is what I call killing two birds with one stone. Only by doing so can we ensure good academic and scholastic work, can we better contribute to socioeconomic development, and at the same time we increase our income. What we have done in recent years is not good enough. You, comrades, now must do even more satisfactorily."

Before concluding his speech, Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong devoted a lot of time to answering questions as to whether this university in particular and other colleges, faced with existing difficulties—the shortages of facilities, material-technical bases, and equipment in support of academic and scholastic work and scientific research—can surge forward to perform satisfactorily the task of turning out a contingent of intellectuals truly capable of meeting the demand of the revolutionary undertaking. The comrade said:

"It is, indeed, very hard to talk about natural science, technological science, and even social science when there is a shortage of means. However, we must accept the existing shortage of means. Do you accept this situation, comrade rector? [reply heard in the background: Yes Sir!]. To obtain these means, we must try harder. We must keep in mind that these means are most essential to human life. Finally, I would like to conclude my speech today by telling you, comrades, about a story from a novel I recently read. This novel is titled: "Freedom or Death." Have any one of you read this? [reply heard from background: A Greek story] Yes it is a Greek story, a good story about the struggle of Crete against the Turks in the 19th century. This story is about a 100-year-old illiterate Cretan who wanted to be able to read and write before he died. He asked his nephew to teach him the alphabet. After teaching him the alphabet, his nephew asked him whether he wished to read books. The old man replied: No, I am going to die. I am now 100 years old. What is the use of reading books? But I need to know the alphabet so I can write the words "Freedom or Death" on all the walls of houses and mosques on Crete. And he fell down and died while writing these words.

"I have told this story so you, comrades, can realize how badly one needs to learn and to know how to read and write. Even a 100-year-old man wanted to learn the alphabet so he could write the words "Freedom or Death." From this story we can draw the conclusion that we need capable people.

"And comrades, our colleges, including this university which I am visiting today, must serve as the mills to train new generations, new men, and especially a contingent of cadres, including capable scientists, needed by various sectors so as to make a worthy contribution to the revolutionary undertaking and the cause of socialism in our country.

"Okay comrades, goodbye." [applause]

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

CATHOLIC GROUPS MARK UNITED FRONT ANNIVERSARY

BK170738 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] On the afternoon of 15 November, the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Catholics and the Hanoi Municipal Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Catholics held a conference to commemorate the 56th founding anniversary of the National United Front, 18 November 1930-18 November 1986, and the 3d founding anniversary of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Catholics, 10 November 1983-10 November 1986.

After they were briefed on the significance of these two anniversaries and on the glorious activities of the National United Front during the past 56 years and the contributions of Catholic followers and the contributions of the patriotic Vietnamese Catholics movement to the National United Front, especially since the founding of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Catholics three years ago; the participants expressed complete confidence in the leadership of the party and directed attention at the Sixth CPV Congress with profound gratitude. They also pledged to attach themselves closely to the nation and unite closely in the VFF so that, together with the entire people, they will fulfill the two tasks of successfully building and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

RESULT, SHORTCOMINGS OF SELF-CRITICISM, CRITICISM DISCUSSED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 9 Sep 86 p 3

[Article by Vo Han Lam: "Develop Good Signs of the Self-criticism and Criticism Drive"]

[Text] Many cadres and workers told us that "the recent self-criticism and criticism drive has breathed new life into industrial production and brought about positive changes in many areas." As journalists, we have also had the same feeling every since late April 1986.

From almost all self-critical reports by party committees at various echelons and by management boards which were supplemented, corrected, and rewritten many times, from the sincere and frank views contributed by the masses, and from the latter's spirit of struggle against negativism in society and against bureaucratism, it appears clearly that the recent self-criticism and criticism drive did not condone any attempt to perform self-criticism perfunctorily just to hoodwink the masses. Consequently, generally speaking, the self-critical reports pointed out the sluggishness of the bureaucratic centralist and state subsidy mechanism--which had hampered productive and commercial activities--and revealed weakness in the leading role of the party, in the trade unions' role as participants in management, and in the assault role of the youth union in production and commerce. Unwholesome matters concerning the leadership manners and the capabilities, ethics, evaluation, promotion, and improvement of cadres were also disclosed and frankly criticized.

Most heartening, however, is the fact that following the self-criticism and criticism drive and after hearing the opinions of party members and the masses, many industrial units in the city have set forth drastic corrective measures. According to a preliminary review by the Industrial Commission of the Municipal Party Committee, typical units include the Western Interprovincial Passenger Bus Corporation, the Electric Motors Combine, the Electricity Service, and the Alcohol-Beer-Soft Drink Combine No 2. The corrective measures will have a short- and long-term effect. To overcome the bureaucratic centralist and state subsidy practices, party committees in the Industrial, Building, Communications and Transportation, Housing, and City Construction Services have rapidly disseminated and implemented (draft) resolution No 306 of the Political Bureau. Many units have reduced

their indirectly productive apparatuses by 30 to 50 percent. Many services, commissions, and sectors have begun to strengthen and reorganize the production process in subordinate units and, on this basis, to reassign their personnel accordingly. The Industrial Service has reappointed directors of the Paper Production Combine and the Farming Machines Combine. After consulting the collective opinion, the Eastern Interprovincial Passenger Bus Corporation has reorganized its personnel at the western interprovincial Passenger bus station. As a result, this bus station has undergone some changes, which have had an initial effect on its turnover and the people's daily life. The Electric Motors Combine has strengthened the personnel of one of its workshops which had long suffered disunity; it has also organized the implementation of the product contracting system, thereby increasing productivity by a half and even doubling it as compared with the past. Many party organizations have also become aware of their responsibilities and have drawn up plan to develop the party ranks and to train cadres.

Especially noteworthy is the fact that many negative cases have been investigated and solved after their disclosure and denunciation by the masses during the recent criticism drive. The Industrial Service has decided to take action against the director, secretary, and deputy director of the Vinh Hue Paper Enterprise. The Building Service has taken disciplinary measures against one director, three deputy directors (two of whom concurrently held the post of party chapter secretary), three bureau chiefs, and one trade union secretary. Investigations are also being conducted in many other units--such as the Packing Sheet Iron Enterprise, the Export Artware Enterprise, the Paper Combine, the Public Parks, Tree Planting, and Zoological Garden Corporation, and the House Repair and Housing Development Corporations.

During the constructive struggle, there still remain many instances of "protection" by high echelons, retaliation by criticized persons, reluctance to carry out the struggle, apprehensions, attempt to avoid clash with other people's interests, and pacifism. Many negative cases have not yet been solved completely. Some internal investigation teams in charge of inquiring into negative practices disclosed by the masses and into matters published by the press are still doing their job slowly and protracting their investigations instead of solving these cases quickly and completely and taking stern action in response to the demand of public opinion. In many areas, the bureaucratic centralist and state subsidy mechanism coupled with conservatism still remains a burden. Generally speaking, however, the recent self-criticism and criticism drive has shown many encouraging signs. The masses demand that critical reports, self-criticism, and criticism be made more regularly and thoroughly and that shortcomings be resolutely corrected right after each self-criticism and criticism drive.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

SHORTCOMINGS OF FOOD CORPORATION CRITICIZED

Hanoi PHU NU VIETNAM in Vietnamese 13-18 Aug 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Hoang Tuyet Nhung: "Those Shortcomings Must Not Persist!"]

[Text] The operations of one unit in Hanoi, whether good or bad, immediately affect each citizen of the capital. That unit is the food corporation. No one denies the toil and effort expended by this unit to supply food to the urban population. Yet complaints are not uncommon from customers that frequent stores of the corporation. One might say that negative phenomena are quite widespread among corporation cadres and personnel. Presented below are some of the wrongs that are committed.

1. In food purchasing operations, some purchasing personnel have declared inflated weights, used sleight-of-hand to obtain large items in place of small ones, and forced raises in salaries and prices for farmers with produce for sale. Conspiracies have been formed with warehouse keepers, drivers, and loaders to steal goods.

2. In production operations, warehouse keepers steal goods and receive and issue nonexistent goods. The production of bean-curd is a particularly grave case. There have been regulations for many years determining how many kilograms are to be made from 1 kg of bean-curd. In actuality, bean-curd exits the factory by the piece rather than the kilogram. Whether the pieces are big or small, five pieces are considered a kilogram. The producers and the storekeepers profit from this arbitrary practice. Customers have frequently complained about how, when bean-curd is transported to the store, store personnel choose all the large, intact pieces. Customers lose money buying pieces that are small and broken.

3. In retail sales, trade personnel undercut portions when weighing, sell the wrong categories of goods and at wrong prices, fail to return change, steal merchandise and sell it to crooks, and take part in the practice of buying and selling torn stamps and turning them into ration stamps and coupons. Customers get very irritated when when trade personnel reserve choice goods for themselves and acquaintances. This gives sales a reputation for being unreasonable and overbearing.

Over the past few years, outlets have purchased whole hogs to slaughter and sell to customers. This has occasioned the impropriety of stripping all the meat from the ribs and violating regulations on cutting the pig's feet, so that all the meat is cut away and only the bones remain. In many outlets two personnel are assigned, side by side, to selling meat, one accepting ration coupons, the other not. This has occasioned the practice of shifting all the poor cuts of meat to the customers using coupons, while lean meat and hams are sold on the free market. Thanks to this exchange, trade personnel have more income, and the price of poor cuts of meat sold on the free market is much higher than when sold for coupons.

4. As for hours of operation, customers need to be able to visit outlets at 0600 hours and 1630 hours in order to get to work on time, but the outlets have not yet opened at 0600 hours, and at 1630 hours, though they are open, they are out of goods.

5. In food transport operations, for many years the Hanoi Food Corporation has had to hire food transport and loading cooperatives. This has occasioned such extortionary practices as preferential treatment being given in the sale of choice goods in large quantities to personnel transporting goods to the store. It is not uncommon for an outlet receiving several dozen kilograms of broiled minced fish to have to sell the first 5 kilograms to transport personnel. The storekeeper allows the personnel of the store to buy 7 more kilograms. Ward cadres were entrusted 3 more kilograms. So how many were left for customers?

Why have such things taken place daily and have not been stopped over the years? In our opinion, it is primarily because core cadres in the Hanoi Food Corporation are weak and not yet very good. Let us present a few statistics:

Over the past 3 years, 6 of 21 food outlet heads, 3 out of 50 assistant outlet heads, and 3 out of 13 enterprise directors, station chiefs, and site chiefs and factory supervisors have been relieved of their positions; 4 out of 37 assistant enterprise managers, assistant station chiefs, and assistant site chiefs have been relieved from their positions; 26 cadres of all these types have undergone disciplinary action.

Among the above cadres, as many as 11 outlet heads and 31 assistant outlet heads have been judged to be weak in one capability or another.

Another reason is that strong and resolute efforts are not being made in the corporation to overcome shortcomings, so there is much individualism and many incidents have not been severely dealt with.

During this criticism and self-criticism drive, the customer masses are very hopeful that the Hanoi Food Corporation will work concretely and stress on-the-spot correction so that hardships will be lessened in the daily life of millions of workers in the capital city. The Hanoi Food Corporation also saw clearly its weaknesses, discussed ways to overcome them, and provided the food purchasing, exploitation, receipt, production, and retail sales operations with a series of measures for immediate implementation.

In retail sales operations since, the corporation proposed 10 immediate measures:

1. The sale of food in agencies and enterprises takes place generally between 0800 and 1600 hours daily. The specific times are determined by agreement between the agency or enterprise and the outlet appropriate to the production and mission conditions of the agency or enterprise; the time trade personnel bring goods in and the time they depart must be acceptable to the agency or enterprise each day. Outlets must try to avoid having some agencies and enterprises serviced often, while others are seldom provided services.

2. In order that workers and government employees can buy food conveniently after working hours, the corporation has determined that between 1600 and 1730 hours, at main stores and outlets on main thoroughfares (there is a specific list), must sell at least the following items: meat, fats, fish sauce, salt, and bean-curd.

3. Outlets must assign enough people to sales and to maintaining peace and order so that workers and government employees can buy goods conveniently. For the long-term future, it is proposed that the city give food outlets priority for electricity and plumbing and equip them with refrigerators so that the outlets can keep fresh produce.

4. In addition the program of bringing goods into agencies and enterprises for sale and after-hours sales at designated outlets, outlets must expand services to include such things as sales by order forms, telephone sales, and door-to-door sales. Without initially charging fees, each store will organize one outlet to serve retired workers and government employees, families that have made revolutionary contributions, and severely handicapped veterans.

5. Items in short supply, of choice category, or with prices that vary greatly from the market price are not to be sold at outlets, but will be brought into factories and enterprises for sale.

6. Ocean products not previously categorized at the production place, so that in the process of turnover they easily change categories, which affects prices and the rights of consumers, will be handled in this way: category 1, 2, and 3 fish will be received, distributed, and sold separated by category; categories 4 and 5 will be categorized before sale.

7. A sufficient number of accurate scales will be distributed for trade personnel to sell goods. Before selling goods, weights and measurement cadres of stores must check scales. Each store must place a scale in a convenient place for customers to weigh items for themselves.

8. For the immediate future, each store must have at least one fish sauce bottling machine meeting standards for the sale of fish sauce in specialized outlets and general sales outlets also selling bottled fish sauce.

9. In order for customers to easily inspect, control, and reflect the strengths and shortcomings of cadres and trade personnel, the corporation

directed that the head, assistant head, and trade personnel must wear working clothes with their names on tags on the breast of the tunics, and the nametag of the head and assistant head of the store and the team leader and assistant team leader must also reflect their position.

10. To put a complete stop to the purchase and sale of goods controlled by the state, such as pork, beef, fish, and bean-curd produced by the food corporation, by hooligans around stores, the corporation proposed that the city assign one public security agent and one market management cadre to each food store. Stores will assign one or two more cadres, and the corporation will pay the wages of cadres on temporary assignment.

This is only the beginning of the self-criticism and criticism drive in the Hanoi Food Corporation. Measures proposed above are only measures! What the customers hope for is that the corporation will resolutely implement the things proposed, rather than "showing an elephant's head and rat's tail" by generating too many measures but showing few practical results after the criticism and self-criticism drive.

The Hanoi Food Corporation must enable customers to supervise and inspect activities of the stores, pointing out good and bad personnel to the corporation in a timely way. Once a corrective policy has been instituted, customers hope that whatever personnel continue to do wrong, even if wife or children, will be rapidly and strictly punished.

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CSO: 4209/102

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

TRAINING COURSE ON PARTY'S AGRICULTURAL LINE PUBLISHED

Hanoi GIAO DUC LY LUAN in Vietnamese Jun 86 pp 1, 2

[Directive of the Department of Propaganda and Training of the Central Committee: "Study Course: 'A number of Fundamental Problems on the Party's Line and Policy on Agriculture'"]

[Text] The Department of Propaganda and Training of the Central Committee recently issued Official Letter No 259 TH/TW dated 16 May 1986 concerning the study course "A Number of Fundamental Problems on the Party's Line and Policy on Agriculture." This course is for cadres (including cadres who are not party members) and party members at the agricultural installations (including forestry, pisciculture, water conservancy, and state-operated production and service units) and provincial and district agencies directly involved in agriculture. We are publishing this course for readers' reference

(For cadres and party members at agricultural installations)

I. Goals and requirements:

To train the cadres and party members so that they thoroughly understand the fundamental problems concerning the agricultural lines and policies of the party and state, particularly the most basic problems concerning making innovations in economic management on the agricultural front and satisfying the need to "concentrate efforts on expanding agriculture, regard agriculture as the leading front, and raise agriculture to large-scale socialist production."

To make bold changes in organizing and implementing the state plan on expanding agriculture in all respects and solidifying and perfecting production relationships in agriculture.

II. Study targets:

Cadres (including cadres who are not yet party members) and party members at the agricultural installations (including forestry, pisciculture, water conservancy, and state-operated production and economic service units) and the provincial and district agencies that are directly involved in agriculture.

III. Course contents:

Lesson 1: Concentrating efforts on expanding agriculture and raising agriculture to large-scale socialist production (includes the national and local 1986 state plans on agriculture).

Lesson 2: Improving economic management and perfecting the end-product contracting mechanism for the groups and laborers in the agricultural cooperatives and production collectives (Directive 130 and Directive 67-GT/TW).

Lesson 3: Stimulating, guiding, and helping the family economy so that it expands strongly in the right direction (Directive 39-GT/TW).

Lesson 4: Strengthening and improving the quality of the state-operated production and economic service units on the agricultural front (Directive 50-GT/TW).

Lesson 5: Manifesting the collective ownership role, exploiting the resources in an all-round and integrated manner, and developing the economy and society in the mountains and midlands (directives 29 and 56-GT/TW).

Lesson 6: Carrying on socialist transformation regarding agriculture and gradually perfecting the new production relationships in the provinces in Nam Bo (Directive 19-GT/TW).

Lesson 7: Continuing to build and consolidate socialist production relationships and expanding the marine products, agroindustrial-salt industry, and coastal industries economy (Directive 45-GT/TW).

Besides this, during the study phase, there must be reports on local party committee resolutions on the above problems and reports on realities and observations at typical models.

That is what the course is about in general. It manifests the viewpoints and policies of the party concerning the agricultural front. Each lesson is based on Central Committee resolutions and directives. During implementation, the localities must formulate specific courses for each class based on the needs and standards of the students. Specific subjects can be added in each sphere.

Time periods must be stipulated depending on each specific class. The study forms must be flexible. In setting times, besides the lecture periods, there must be time to read documents, discuss issues, listen to reports, and visit typical models. At the end, evaluations must be made (the evaluations must make predictions concerning the action programs).

IV. Materials:

1. The main materials are Central Committee resolutions and directives, speeches by leaders, and local directives and summary reports. Specifically:

Directives 100, 19, 29, 35, 50, 56, 65, and 67 of the Secretariat of the CPV Central Committee.

The proceedings of the fourth and fifth national party congresses.

The resolutions of the sixth, seventh, and eighth (fourth term) plenums of the CPV Central Committee.

Guide documents for studying the resolution of the Fifth Congress.

The speeches made by Nguyen Thanh Binh, the secretary of the CPV Central Committee, at the conferences to study the Secretariat's directives on agriculture held in Hanoi on 10 August 1985 and in Ho Chi Minh City on 24 June 1985.

The 1986 state plan (sections on agriculture, forestry, and pisciculture and related sections).

Summary reports, resolutions, and directives of the local party committees on the above topic.

2. Instructors must also study the lessons in the document "Understand Thoroughly and Implement Simultaneously the Party's Directives on the Agricultural Front" of the Agricultural Department of the Central Committee, which was published by the Nong Nghiep Publishing House in 1985.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

FARMERS FOCUS ON MORE ATTENTION TO AGRICULTURE, POOR FARMERS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 14 Sep 86 p 1

[Article by N.M.A.: "Collective Peasants Contribute Ideas to the Party: Agriculture Must Be Placed at the Forefront, More Attention Must Be Given to the Poor Farmers"]

[Text] On 11 and 12 September 1986, more than 100 cadres from the collective peasants unions in the coastal and rural wards and precincts attended a meeting to contribute ideas to the draft political report of the Sixth National Party Congress and the draft report of the Fourth Municipal Party Organization Congress. Of the more than 500 ideas contributed to the party, almost 50 were given high marks by the delegates, because they proposed a number of good measures aimed at building the new production relationship in the rural areas, improving the lives of the poor farmers and laborers, and stabilizing market prices.

Reinforcing the coming tasks, many people said that the cooperativization movement in the rural areas has been carried on too slowly in past years, and the quality of the movement is not good. This is because we have not invested the amounts originally planned. Clearly, the agricultural sector has been slighted as compared with many other sectors even though party resolutions state that agriculture is the leading front. Many delegates proposed that the Municipal CPV Committee implement measures to give more attention to the poor farmers, particularly during the preharvest lean period.

After the meeting, the various echelon collective peasants unions will arrange for union members, cooperative members, members of collectives, and farmers to contribute ideas to the party congress.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

COUNCIL OF STATE AWARD--Cadres and the people in the 1st precinct of Ho Chi Minh City were recently awarded the Labor Order, First Class, by the Council of State. On this occasion, the precinct launched an emulation drive to run until 3 February 1967--the party's founding anniversary--to score achievements in honor of the sixth national party congress. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 4 Nov 86 BK] /9738

VIETNAM DEMOCRATIC PARTY SYMPOSIUM--Last week, the Vietnam Democratic Party [VDP] Central Committee held a symposium on front work on the occasion of the 56th anniversary of the Vietnam National United Front [VNUF], 18 November 1930-18 November 1986. The symposium recalled VNUF activities over the past 50 years and more and its great contributions to the Vietnamese revolution in the past national democratic revolution and the present socialist revolution. The delegates at the symposium, in particular those who are directly engaged in front work expressed many opinions on the front's role in revolution and in our people's life. Many delegates contributed numerous ideas regarding the front's activities, stressing in particular the need to gear front work to the grass roots. VDP General Secretary Nghiem Xuan Yen called on all VDP cadres and members to take an active part in VNUF activities, bring into full play the VDP's tradition of patriotism and revolution, make additional contributions to the revolutionary cause, and join the entire people throughout the country in scoring achievements to greet the sixth congress of the glorious CPV. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 17 Nov 86 BK] /9738

CSO: 4209/139

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

SHIPPING, RECEIVING CLERK AIRS GRIEVANCES

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 9 Sep 86 p 2

[Article by Dang Lam Dung of the Synthesized Trading Co., Binh Thanh Cooperative: "The Hard Times of a Shipping and Receiving Clerk"]

[Text] Being an employee of a trade agency responsible for purchasing and escorting goods, I would like to reflect certain things that need to be improved in the production and goods circulation fields.

In our shipping and receiving operations with related units, in principle, we sign a receipt whenever crates delivered respond to the rules of being not tempered and having intact cask-hoops. We open only crates showing broken seals or other suspicious traces. Unfortunately, when the cargo came to the warehouse and each crate had to be counted or weighed, we were in many instances unpleasantly surprised when the merchandise delivered as short or underweight. Examples:

- Bags of Viso laundry detergent containing 20 bags of 0.5 kg, weighing over 10 kg including wrapping. When checked, all the bags were not torn and the sewing stitches on the bags' opening were intact. Yet, when certain sags were weighed, they weighed only 8 kg! The reason was that there were only 16 bags instead of 20!

- Phu Quoc fish sauce for export came in boxes of 12 bottles, weighing over 16 kg including wrapping. When checked, some weighed only 14 kg. The reason was found when the box was open: it was one bottle short.

- PS toothpaste came in boxes of 100 tubes. Some boxes contained only 99 or 98 tubes filled, and the rest was empty.

We have run into many other similar situations when receiving merchandise, and that made our job very difficult. If the shortage ratio were within the bearable limits there would be no need to complain. But in some instances, it was quite substantial, and the "fault" was ours because we were directly responsible. Moreover, if we had to compensate for the losses, it would be an injustice.

I suggest that goods production units strengthen their control measures, especially the filling and wrapping operations, in order that products coming

off the production lines respond to quality and quantity requirements and gain customer confidence. By the same token, strict rules governing the above operations must be enforced. For us, the shipping and receiving personnel, if these recommendations are honored, they will put our minds to rest in the discharge of our day-to-day duties.

9458/12951

CSO: 4209/77

AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

RADIO VIEWS PHU KHANH'S GRAIN PROBLEMS

BK161333 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 15 Nov 86

["Article" by VNA correspondent on "Grain Procurement in Phu Khanh Province"]

[Text] For the first time in several years Phu Khanh has had to buy 4,000 metric tons of rice from other provinces to satisfy urgent local demands although the province has continued to obtain bumper grain crops owing to many advantages created by new production relations and thanks to more favorable weather conditions than enjoyed by other provinces. In 1985, Phu Khanh produced 470,000 metric tons of grain, some 70,000 metric tons in excess of the target set by the third provincial party congress. In 1986, despite a shortfall in the planned cultivated area caused by serious drought, the yields of all grain crops increased, and the annual grain output is expected to be equal to that of 1985.

This situation is directly related to various problems concerning the local grain management and distribution policy. The Phu Khanh provincial people's committee recently drew lessons of experience from an analysis of the causes of the grain shortage and devised measures to overcome this problem.

The Obstacles

Most of the cadres and working people in the province agree on the policy that the state administers unified management and distribution of grain as a means to stabilize grain supplies in particular and to make important contributions to normalizing the people's life and social market at present. Phu Khanh has every necessary condition for carrying out this policy. However, due to hasty work methods, a lack of proper preparations, and radical changes in the status of distribution and circulation work in general, the province has been unable to implement the correct policy of the state assuming the unified management and distribution of grain. This has stirred up difficulties regarding grain supplies in the locality--difficulties which could have been prevented.

Early in 1986, the State Planning Commission announced a cut of 10,000 metric tons in the total amount of 25,000 metric tons of nitrate fertilizer it originally planned to supply to Phu Khanh, while the province needs a

minimum of 40,000 metric tons annually for its grain production. Although the cut was imposed by the common difficulties facing the country, this substantial reduction has nonetheless caused problems for the locality. In the 1985-86 winter-spring crop Phy Khanh was able to fulfill only 50 percent of its plan to provide supplies and fertilizers for various districts, thereby satisfying only 30 percent of their needs.

In the face of this situation, Phy Khanh had to issue permits to the districts concerned allowing them to use rice to barter for supplies and fertilizers with units outside the province, thus enabling them to obtain in time the supplies and fertilizers needed for the winter-spring production season. The amount of grain approved by the province for bartering was 10,000 metric tons, but in reality, the quantity was substantially larger, fed by different channels. It has been estimated that the volume of grain taken out of Phu Khanh by various districts was 10 times as much as the amount it had to buy from other provinces in the preharvest lean periods. This has clearly proven that Phy Khanh did not really lack grain.

To achieve the unified management and distribution of grain, the Phy Khanh provincial people's committee has formulated a plan under which 160,000 metric tons of grain will be procured in 1986, or 35 percent of the province's total grain output. Only with such a procurement plan can Phy Khanh obtain sufficient grain for distribution to persons who are paid by the state or have economic relations with the state and for sale at stable prices to people in non-agricultural areas. Since early 1986, the province has on five occasions readjusted the agreed-upon prices of grain bought from the peasants. These readjustments, however, have often failed to produce the impact desired because of the rapid increases of the consumer goods prices. In this connection, private traders' competition in grain purchase, which contributed to inflating prices, is also a factor that must be taken into account. For this reason, despite the great efforts of all districts, as of 10 October the entire province had procured only 100,200 metric tons of grain, most of them collected in accordance with the three norms: agricultural tax, irrigation service fees, and two-way contracts. The amount expected to be purchased at agreed-upon prices or obtained through direct exchanges of goods failed to meet the target. The volume of grain collected so far is smaller than that procured in the corresponding period last year and falls far short of the plan designed to ensure conditions for achieving the unified management and distribution of grain. This situation has resulted in irregular grain supplies to people in nonagricultural areas and occasional shortages which were taken advantage of by private traders to control the grain market.

In the face of these hurdles and difficulties, Phu Khanh is still resolved to carry out the policy of the state assuming the unified management and distribution of grain, but this time around with better preparations and positive measures to closely link the promotion of production and increase of grain output by procuring supplies and fertilizers by itself with strengthening market management.

Since early this year Phu Khanh has imported 7,000 metric tons of nitrate fertilizer and 200 metric tons of insecticides with its own fund of foreign currency, including 2,000 metric tons of nitrate fertilizer imported with foreign exchange obtained from the export of goods delivered by various districts to the province. As a result, in the recent summer-fall crop the districts were assured of a fairly adequate and timely supply of intrate fertilizer and insecticides, which helped boost the province's grain crop yield to an unprecedented average of 45 quintals per hectare. Phu Khanh has also strictly controlled the sending of rice to other localities to barter for supplies and fertilizers. As a matter of fact, it has put an end to the arbitrary bartering of grain for supplies and fertilizers by various districts with other provinces.

To collect the grain surplus kept by the peasants, various responsible sectors in Phu Khanh have coordinated with one another in sending goods to the districts to exchange for paddy. So far an amount of goods with a value equal to that of 56,000 metric tons paddy has been sent to the districts. The banking sector has supplied cash on a priority basis for the purchase of grain in key rice-growing areas such as Tuy Hoa City and Tuy Hoa and Cam Ranh. In Tuy Hoa District, each day the local banks have spent 0.5-2 million dong in cash to buy grain. Owing to the successful efforts to stabilize the prices of industrial goods and to achieve a relative stability in the market, the agreed-upon prices approved by the state for the purchase of grain have had a salutary impact for more than 1 month now especially in the key rice-growing area of Tuy Hoa District. With these measures, in September Phu Khanh managed to procure more than 15,000 metric tons of grain, much more than the average amount collected in the previous months, despite the fact that the summer-fall harvest had just begun.

Phu Khanh is in the process of restoring order in the grain market. The market price of rice has been stabilized for two months now. The agreed-upon price set by the Council of Ministers since 1 August 1986 for the purchase of rice has continued to have a positive effect over the past 2½ months. This is a very significant fact when one recalls that in the first 7 months of this year Phu Khanh had to increase the rice purchasing price 4 times and had to devote much effort to unraveling many obstacles. These are good lessons of experience that may help Phu Khanh achieve a more thorough and effective unified management and distribution of grain in the days ahead.

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CSO: 4209/139

AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

NORTHERN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES--By now peasants in northern Vietnam have put 180,000 hectares under winter crop. This is a subsidiary crop between the two main rice crops of the year. Peasants in northern Vietnam are trying to complete the harvesting of autumn rice as quickly as possible. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 17 Nov 86 BK] /9738

HAU GIANG GRAIN DELIVERY--Hau Giang Province has delivered to the state granary 131,700 metric tons of summer-fall paddy overfulfilling the plan by 1,700 metric tons and exceeding the amount turned in during the corresponding period last year by more than 1,000 metric tons. On the average, the province has procured for the state nearly 1 metric ton from every hectare of crop. Ke Sach, Vi Thanh, My Tu, and Thanh Tri Districts and Soc Trang City have overfulfilled their procurement plans by 3.89-29.94 percent. [Excerpt] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Nov 86 BK] /9738

NATIONWIDE AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES--According to the General Statistics Department, as of 25 October, all localities throughout the country had planted 115,645 hectares of winter subsidiary and grain crops. To date, all localities throughout the country have also harvested 258,605 hectares of 10th-month rice and completed soil preparation for the 5th month spring crop season on 267,588 hectares. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 3 Nov 86 BK] /9738

CSO: 4209/139

LIGHT INDUSTRY

VIETNAM

DISCONTINUED PRODUCTION AT TEXTILE FACTORY COMMENTED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 9 Sep 86 p 3

[Article by Sao Ly: "A Queer Story at the Binh Minh 9 Textile Factory: All Conditions Were Met for Production, Yet Production Was Discontinued"]

[Text] Recently, a strange thing happened at the Binh Minh 9 Textile Factory. It was unusual for the textile sector, but it was 100 percent true that the enterprise had enough raw materials and all production conditions were met, but it had to stop production.

At functional offices, everybody was at work, but when one went down to the production workshops, it was all different. Above the huge starching machines there was the conspicuous absence of hovering white fumes that used to give off a chemical smell. The machines were still full of spring lines made by thousands of brilliant white silk fibers but at the time, the fibers were motionless and people missed their buzzing sound when they slid on rollers, crept into grooves, and rolled onto big bolts. On the floor of the warehouse lay hundreds of bolts of starched materials (improved products of the enterprise), and 250 tons of fibers stacked in a corner.

Was that a dead workshop? Not at all! Then, isn't that strange that a workshop having all the required conditions for production (equipment, raw materials, energy, labor) was forced to discontinue production? It all boils down to the fact that the major product of the enterprise, starched material bolts, did not sell. But why didn't it sell? Was it because the quality was too poor or because the product was not made according to specifications? All the above speculations are wrong. As a matter of fact, the truth was the opposite. Therefore, what was the cause? We must go back to the year 1985 in order to clarify the matter.

The year 1985 was the glorious year of the Binh Minh 9 Enterprise and its affiliated cooperatives (Binh Minh 9 was then responsible for the management of contract work over 25 cooperatives in Tan Binh). Those cooperatives had received orders to make starched materials and deliver to Binh Minh 9 over 18 million meters of cloth for Plan A, contract weaving for the central textile sector. This year, due to difficulties in obtaining raw materials, the municipal textile sector has ordered Binh Minh 9 and its cooperatives to weave only 12 million meters. On the average, cooperatives should deliver

1 million meters of cloth to Binh Minh every month. However, in the last 8 months, cooperatives have produced on contract for Plan A a little more than 5.4 million meters, constituting 45 percent of the annual plan. The fabric output of cooperatives has gradually dwindled, and in the months of June, July, and August, the monthly average was around 550,000 meters. Output was low, partly because there was a shortage of raw materials in the initial months. But in recent months, despite a pretty good supply of raw materials, output not only did not creep up but had a tendency to decrease. Why?

Nothing is more illustrative than this statement from a lot of cooperative members and many representatives of small-industry and handicraft textile cooperatives: "That's simply because of the price! The price of contract labor is too low. We cannot make a living with doing contract work for the Binh Minh 9 Enterprise." Since the beginning of the year, to overcome this problem and pending the approval by the Ministry of Light Industry of a more rational list of unit prices, the city textile sector and the municipal price commission have twice raised contract unit prices in response to requests submitted by cooperative members. For example, the labor cost for making coarse cloth was jacked up from 1.1 dong per meter to 1.5 dong, then 2.5 dong per meter. Nevertheless, the latter price is still "backward." The city textile sector is recommending municipal authorities to increase that price once more (to probably over 3 dong per meter).

In addition to the irrationality of contract labor prices, another issue needs proper and timely attention. Because the fiber allotments made by the central government as a balance for the city textile sector (under the form of contract labor prices) were too low and ran around 35 to 40 percent of the production capabilities, the city textile sector had no choice but to spread out (in a plan called Plan B) to do other work on contract, or to buy raw materials from and to sell products to neighboring provinces and to agencies outside the textile sector having textile materials. In the current situation, this has been a right approach which was welcome by the small-industry and handicraft workers. Plan B was instrumental in attracting a significant amount of fibers and in supporting the important production capabilities of the city textile sector.

Besides the positive aspects of the self-procurement plan (Plan B), certain weaknesses and shortcomings need to be overcome and corrected in a timely manner. Contract labor prices, purchase and sale prices of raw materials, and material supply standards in contract work are determined haphazardly and still depend entirely on the "agreement" of both parties (buying and selling parties, ordering and labor provider parties). This form of agreement has its advantages but not a few disadvantages. If the representatives who sign the contracts bear in mind the need to integrate the three interests harmoniously, nothing is worth mentioning. Instead, they used to allow the worker's individual interests and the collective's interests to be served a little better at the expense of the state's interests, for the purpose of allegedly encouraging themselves to take the initiative in courageously invest in production. Regardless of where they are used, be it a management agency or a production unit, raw materials for the textile sector must be imported from foreign countries with foreign currency. Violating the principle of harmoniously integrating the three interests causes the state to lose not a small amount of

capital, and a substantial part of it makes its way into the pockets of a class of intermediaries. A product of the "spread out" mode indicated earlier has been a number of "middlemen" whose specialty is to arrange contracts in a professional manner and some individuals and business organizations who deal in textile raw materials (a commodity imported by the state from foreign countries). Lenient procedures in "buying raw materials and selling products" are credited with making not a few state and cooperative cadres corrupt. Topping all if the above, in the textile sector, a tendency to run after Plan B at the expense of Plan A, which represents the duty of the city textile sector vis-a-vis the central government, is prevalent.

As of the end of March, Binh Minh 9 has completed only 45 percent of its contract work in the annual plan. In its warehouses, over 250 tons of fibers have been sitting idle (the highest amount ever recorded), but not a few cooperatives (within its management jurisdiction) did not want to receive orders for starched material bolts to do weaving contracts according to Plan A or if they did, they tiptoed for the simple reason that their weaving machines were too busy doing other work for Plan B.

Presently, Binh Minh 9 has enough raw materials and meets all other production conditions, but it has to discontinue production, seriously jeopardizing its Plan A. This situation must be straightened out and rapidly overcome by various levels of management, cooperatives, and their members.

9458/12951

CSO: 4209/77

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

VIETNAM

MEDICINE SHORTAGES ANALYZED, REMEDIES PROPOSED

Hanoi PHU NU VIETNAM in Vietnamese 13-18 Aug 86 p 2

[Article by Bang Thuong: "One Aspect of the Problem of Medicines"]

[Text] Many people complain that they do not understand why there is now such a shortage of medicine. In the recent past, hospitals and clinics have had more medicine, but there is a general shortage, especially of antibiotics.

The shortage of medicine is due to a shortage of sources of medicine or to shortcomings in supply management. What can be done to make clinics less crowded and ensure that persons who need medicine most will receive it?

The realities are that although we are producing more and more medicine, it is not yet enough for the whole society, and there are still many types we cannot produce. We have to import large quantities of medicine from foreign countries every year. Over the past few years, quantities imported have been reduced far below what were previously imported. Domestically produced medicines have been added to these, but the total still does not equal previous quantities. That is one of the main reasons for the shortage of medicine. Yet it is also due to poor management of medical supply, which has caused hospitals and clinics to be out of medicine while plenty medicine is always available for sale out on the streets. Some of this medicine is counterfeit, but much of it is authentic. From September 1985 to February 1986, there were problems with medicine in hospitals and special clinics because the finance sector did not provide money to purchase medicine. In some places, they had to post the announcement on the patient announcement board, "The hospital presently has no medicine." The past few months, medicine has not been not so scarce, but the situation cannot be considered normal. Some people who seldom go to the hospital and, when illness has progressed, need medicine badly, find that when they do go for treatment there is no medicine, yet there are times that the clinics are crowded with people--an those are the times when there is plenty of medicine available. Nevertheless, it should be possible to be certain that when one is ill he will be able to get medicine when he visits the doctor. But if people without such great need also come and ask for medicine, the clinic becomes crowded, and there is a shortage of medicine.

Doctors frequently complain about people coming frequently to clinics, before they really need medication, because they have free time and the clinic is nearby. Some people visit the clinic every month; some come every week. The clinic knows them, but to save face gives them medicine every time. Some visit the clinic and get medicine that they take out to sell to tea houses.

Some people who are relatives and acquaintances of doctors and medical cadres are certain of receiving consideration and, when hospitals have medicine, visit them immediately to request medicine. Whatever medicine they don't use themselves they give to their children.

The third case is that cadres and personnel in the sector and in hospitals qualified for examinations in any area who, when they know there is medicine there, bring their records along to be examined first. Some people get examined every month, even when they are not ill--belonging to the same hospital or agency, of course they give each other consideration and precedence for the good medicine.

For a long time now, agencies and enterprises have turned over medical funds for cadres to hospitals for better management by each cadre level. One good thing about this system of management is that hospitals have money to take the initiative in buying medicine to treat cadres, workers, and government personnel when they come for examinations or have to be hospitalized. Another advantage is that it avoids the practice of medical cadres of the agency giving out large quantities of medicine to persons they like, and giving little to persons they do not like, even when they are seriously ill. Yet this method also causes some of the above abuses and involve other shortcomings:

--Acquaintances and persons living nearby receive much medicine. Persons living far away do not get medicine when they come to the clinic for exams.

--Agencies and enterprises lose many manhours for cadres, workers, and government employees to travel long distances for examinations. There is not enough medicine to give them at the agency or enterprises, because all the funds for medicine have been turned over to hospitals.

This is what we think about these realities:

--Management must be such that medicine gets to the person who is truly ill; consideration should not be given to and reliance placed upon the vague and general complaints of persons who visit too often.

--Hospitals and clinics should control the amount of medicine issued every day (except when there is an epidemic or unusual weather, with many persons ill) to enable dividing it up equally throughout the month. The situation must not exist that there are crowds visiting when there is medicine, and at other times there is none for people who need it most.

--Sector personnel must be subjected to inspections, and, in particular, their standard of living must be improved, income increased, and health improved to lessen the incidence of medical examinations before they really need them.

--Another, long-term measure would be to divide medicine funds in two, half to be left with the agency or enterprise and half to be turned over to the hospital. Accounting would be done semiannually or annually. If they have a surplus, the hospitals must turn the money back or carry it over to the next quarter; if they are short the agencies or enterprises must provide more. The agency is also the place at which medical cadres know best the illnesses of each person and can give more opinions to the hospital as to when more positive treatment is necessary, or if it has not yet reached the critical point. Half the funds provided retirees for medicine must remain in the neighborhood. It is best for old men to go to the doctor nearby. It would also reduce the loss of manhours by agencies and enterprises for personnel to go to the doctor and lessen the hardship for patients having to travel far when they are ill.

Medicine is currently a big problem, and we do not pretend to have exhausted the subject. We only wanted to express a few opinions on this aspect of the subject for the medical sector to study and develop measures for improving the use and management of medicine.

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CSO 4207/102

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

VIETNAM

NGUYEN DINH TU'S LETTER ON VIETNAM TEACHER'S DAY

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[Report on an open letter by Higher and Vocational Education Minister Nguyen Dinh Tu to professors, teachers, and cadres of universities, colleges, and vocational schools--date not given]

[Text] This year, the commemoration of Vietnam Teachers' Day is being held amid efforts by the education sector to carry out tasks for the new academic year and to score achievements to welcome the coming sixth national party congress. The education sector has been assigned great and heavy tasks to contribute to solving various difficult situations of the nation. In the years ahead, the sector must strive to enhance the effectiveness and quality of training to meet demands of capable cadres for various occupations, sectors, localities, and key projects. It must strive to meet requirements on regular training for the working people, while urgently producing a contingent of capable specialists who will work effectively for the country.

Various universities, colleges, and high schools must maintain their role as the cultural, scientific, and technological centers in each locality, region, and the country.

To fulfill these tasks, the higher and vocational education sector must strive to renovate its system and advance firmly. All teachers must strive to enhance their background, firmly grasp revolutionary ethics, and uphold the quality of a socialist teacher in accordance with the standard: An outstanding teacher of the people.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

DECREASED POPULATION GROWTH--According to the Department of Statistics, the population growth rate for 1985 and the first half of 1986 in the city was down to 1.7 percent. Our city has approximately 4 million people, including over 50 percent who could be parents. Before 1984 the city experienced a population explosion. In 1985, the city started a program of planned population growth encompassing activities in the economic, cultural, and social fields. The establishment and expansion of a network, including 322 committees at the subward and village level and 1,600 committees at the agency bloc level and at enterprises, allowed birth control to reach a wide variety of subjects. The marriage and family guidance bureau of the Youth Cultural Hall, First Precinct, and the Population Center were very active in instilling among youths about to enter adult life a body of knowledge that allows them to respond favorably to the planned parenthood program. In the meantime, the service network supporting the program was widely extended in all districts and wards. Over 200,000 persons responded to birth control measures. However, so that the planned population growth can obtain better results and bring the natural population growth rate down to 1.2 percent, in the 1986-1990 plan, committees, sectors, and mass organizations must work more closely together in carrying out policies and procedures set forth by the state in matters of campaigning for the program and rewarding those people credited with successful accomplishments. [Text] [Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 9 Sep 86 p 1] 9458

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